

FEMINIZED VS. REGULAR SEEDS

February 445

HIGH TIMES

2013 Hydro Report

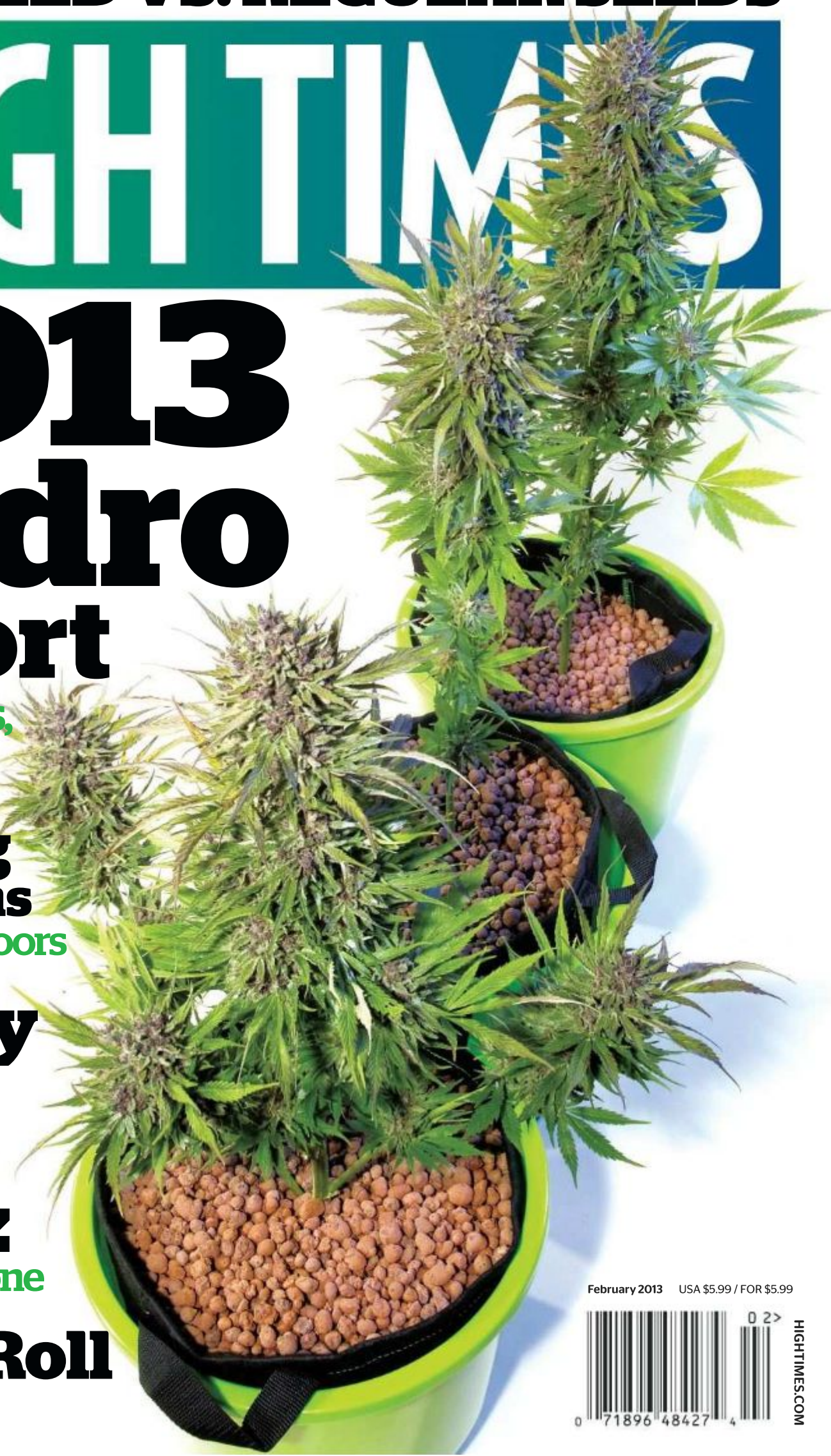
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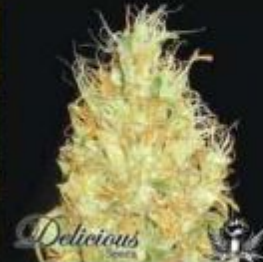
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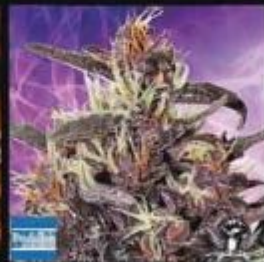
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DELICIOUS SEEDS
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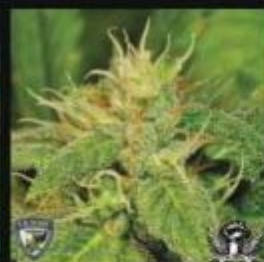
DINAFEM SEEDS
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DINAFEM SEEDS
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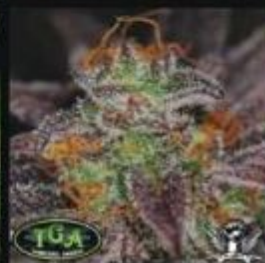
TH SEEDS
Electric Lemon G



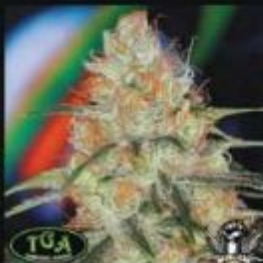
BUDDHA SEEDS
White Dwarf



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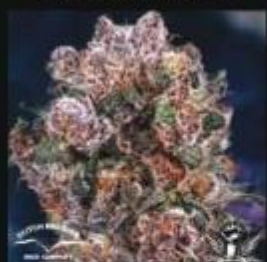
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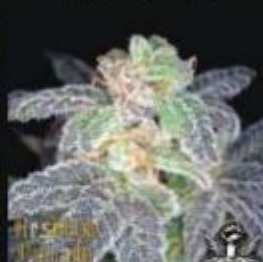
DUTCH PASSION
Blueberry



SERIOUS SEEDS
White Russian



CONNOISSEUR GENETICS
Grateful Casey



RESERVA PRIVADA
OG #18



HAZEMAN SEEDS
Elephant Stomper



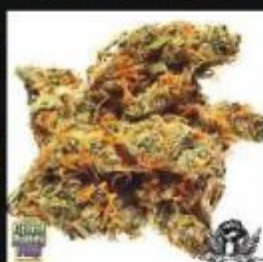
H.S.O
Blue Dream



KARMA GENETICS
Ghostlyder OG



GRANDDADDY PURPLE
Granddaddy Purple



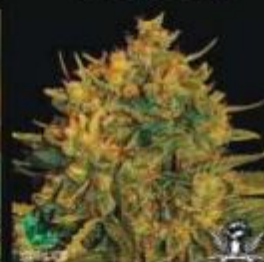
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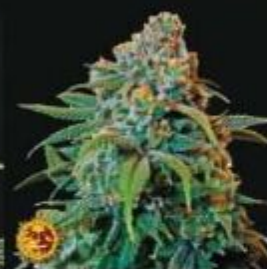
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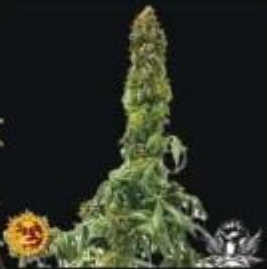
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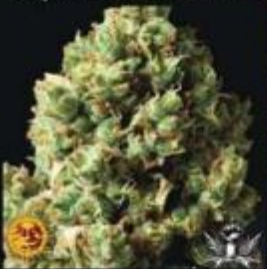
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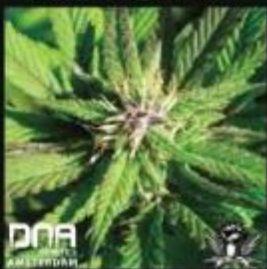
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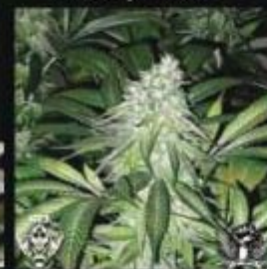
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HIGH TIMES FEBRUARY



In hydroponic growing, we create the perfect sponge for holding oxygen, water and nutrients for serious yields of frosty buds.

—The 2013 Hydro Report, page 45

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45 The 2013 Hydro Report

Danny Danko and hydroponics expert Erik Biksa detail how to grow marijuana without soil for bigger and faster yields. Learn the water-based secrets to achieving explosive plant-growth rates and heavier harvests.

56 The Cali Cannon

There are times when simply packing a bowl or rolling your average doobie doesn't pay proper tribute to the incredible variety available in today's rapidly growing specialty green market. *By Lochfoot*

58 Sensi in the Sierras

The altitude isn't the only thing that can be described as "high" up in these mountains. As with the more famous pot-producing hills of Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties further north, cannabis cultivation is the reigning industry in this enclave of the Sierras. *By Justin Hampton*

72 Feminized vs. Regular Seeds

High Times puts Serious Seeds' AK-47 to the test, growing out feminized and regular seeds of the strain side by side to find out the pros and cons of newfangled versus old-fashioned grow methods. *By Danny Danko*

82 Welcome to Juarez

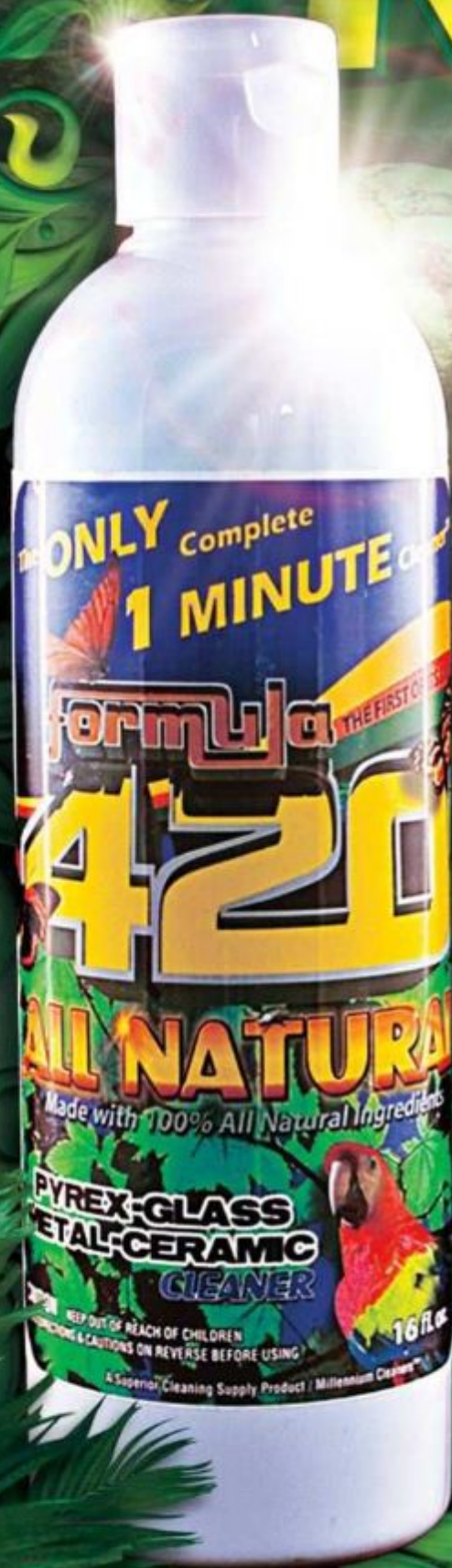
Thanks to the continuing warfare between Mexico's drug cartels, Ciudad Juárez has been considered the most dangerous city in the world for years. The month of June saw only 45 homicides. That, according to the authorities, is a big improvement. *By Teun Voeten*

90 High Times Interview: Tommy Chong

He's fighting the biggest battle of his life—prostate cancer. But the comedy legend and cannabis icon is facing his ordeal with characteristic good humor and a deep sense of spirituality. *By Dan Skye*

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HIGH TIMES DIGITAL

Lace Face stands behind the torch at the Las Vegas Flameoff.



► Glass Artist of the Month

Lacey St. George, better known as “Lace Face,” was exposed to glassblowing and pipe-making at an early age. She fell in love with glass the moment she stepped behind a torch in 2004 and has taken top honors at flame-off competitions nationwide. She draws inspiration from all things of beauty, particularly in nature. “Art is my spirituality,” she says. “The medium of glass is my doctrine, teaching me the ways of patience, discipline and determination. It keeps me accountable, by forcing me to look deep within myself for inspiration daily. I praise the fluid-like forms while dancing with the flames, willing them to speak, and to show me the light.”

Check out the work of LaceFace at: hightimes.com/glass.

POT POLL

Chong & Cheech



In last month's poll, you named your favorite stoner movie. *Pineapple Express* led early but *Up in Smoke* gradually burned the competition. This Cheech & Chong flick from 35 years ago is as drop-dead funny as it ever was. And Stacy Keach, who plays Sergeant Stedenko, should have won an Oscar. *Pineapple Express* has some pretty graphic violence, which may have turned some people off. And Jeff Bridges in *The Big Lebowski* gives a classic performance. In fact, if you're out of pot, Bridges will give you a contact high!

Up In Smoke...18.6%

Pineapple Express...17.7%

Half Baked...15.1%

The Big Lebowski...12.3%

How High...11.6%

Dazed and Confused...9.7%

Friday...6.6%

Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle...5.2%

Super High Me...2.3%

Reefer Madness...0.9%

Check out our new poll online that asks the equivalent of stoner morality questions. Go to hightimes.com/polls.



Jen rocks.

► Jen's Music Stash

Do you have a live music addiction? HT managing editor Jen Bernstein does. Check out *High Times Presents: Jen's Music Stash* or for short, *The Stash*. Tune in as Jen's reviews shows, interviews performers and industry insiders and shares her backstage adventures. Listen to and follow her at: hightimes.com/thestash @jbmusicstash

► HT Newsletter

In 2013, we have a full slate of events on tap for stoners worldwide. Stay up to date on all *High Times* happenings and the important cannabis news that affects you. The newsletter comes to you via email and features a weekly photo contest. Best of all, it's free! Subscribe now.

hightimes.com/newsletter



Miss February 2013

NAME: Jennifer

PROFILE: [sxyjnnny420](#)

AGE: 22

CITY: Davenport, IA

OCCUPATION: Valet

To enter or rate contestants, go to misshightimes.com. You must be 18 years or older to enter.

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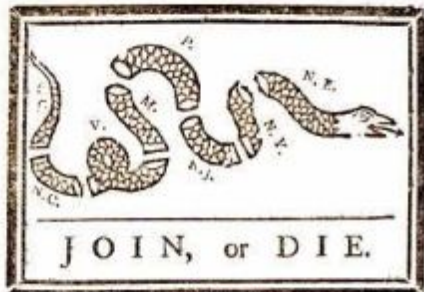
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POT IS LEGAL!

(in Washington and Colorado...)



What a week this has been. For starters, as we were

putting to bed this issue featuring the 2013 *Hydro Report*, Hurricane Sandy hit, and those of us

here on the eastern seaboard were suddenly confronted with more water than any of us had ever seen before. Ironical? Poetical? Prophetic? While we were telling you folks how to grow pot in water-based systems, Sandy's wind and rain took out lower Manhattan, as well as large parts of Staten Island, Brooklyn, Queens, Long Island and the Jersey Shore. It also took out the *High Times* office for a week. We learned our own lesson about water—that it has a will of its own and that too much or too little can be lethal for you or your plants. After a lot of last minute scrambling, we had this issue ready to go.

BUT STOP THE PRESSES!

On November 6, something bordering on the miraculous happened. Marijuana was legalized for recreational use in the states of Washington and Colorado, Massachusetts became the 18th state to legalize pot for medicinal use, and folks in Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids and Ypsilanti, Michigan voted to decriminalize.

The Feds must be shaking—and it's not due to all that coffee they drink on those stakeouts. This is a real coup, and those who worked on these initiatives should roll up a fat victory joint, sit back, and contemplate their place in the history books.

Those who worked for the initiatives in Oregon and Arkansas that didn't pass should be proud of themselves too, because they stood and they fought. The Forces of Darkness must not be allowed to succeed unto victory unchallenged. Those in possession of the Light must make a stand. And when Light gets trampled underfoot, it must rise again, because Light, weak as it may be at times, is immortal and will get stronger with every battle it fights. People have a will of their own, too, when they choose to use it.

So say a prayer for those still suffering in Staten Island, Coney Island, Long Beach, the Rockaways, Atlantic City ... The list goes on and on. And really, this is where the Feds should be concentrating their efforts anyway—on helping people in need.

But, man, I cannot wait to see the expression on their faces when we start making the case for amnesty for marijuana prisoners. Because if they don't send the National Guard in to stop the implementation of these voter initiatives in Washington and Colorado, the federal government is de facto accepting legalization for recreational use, which will set a precedent that defense attorneys can have a lot of fun with.

The fight continues. In next month's issue we will have a lot more information.

Peace,

Chris Simunek
Editor-In-Chief

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POWER POT

I just wanted to thank you again for the article on our product Earth & Grow ("Electrify Your Plants," Nov. '12 HT). We've been doing well with sales and recently received an order from Hydrofarm. Plus a local caregiver has been testing his strains to see if Earth & Grow increases THC and/or CBD. He's been growing them the same way in the same room as he's always done. One of his strains started at 13.68 percent THC before using Earth & Grow and tested 21.2 percent THC after being plugged in from a rooted clone. Another went from 0 percent CBD to 1.8 percent CBD. Also, tests conducted at Brown University showed that peppers grown using our system yielded 145 percent more than the control group. Exciting stuff. Thanks again for your support!

Stephen Doyle

CANNABIS CONUNDRUM

Oftentimes, physicians and patients alike refer to cannabis as if the word represented a single monolithic entity. This cannot possibly be true: There are hundreds of different cannabis strains, each one of which was created to accentuate a specific quality or set of qualities. Therefore, each strain best suits a specific ailment or set of ailments, and the word *cannabis* refers only to a broad family of different therapeutic strains. Physicians must become familiar with each item in this vast and growing set of treatment tools.

*Daniel Kyle Palmer, BS
(MD/PhD student)*

PHUCK BIG PHARMA

First of all, marijuana is still a Schedule I drug only because of Big Pharma's lobbyists. Yes, the Feds and the prison-industrial complex make money jailing people as well, but the overriding reason that marijuana is still federally illegal is because it poses a threat to Big Pharma's profits, and they won't change their tune until the Feds legalize it. And then Big Pharma will join right in with all the other mom-and-pop dispensaries and co-ops, and the medical marijuana industry will be homogenized and mainstreamed just like alcohol and tobacco. Though it would be nice to see Big Pharma excluded from reaping the benefits that legalized pot would bring, either course is fine with me, assuming that full legality, legitimacy, documented medical research and respect are finally accorded to cannabis and its users.

Lokie



The federal law enforcement system is broken and needs to be rethought and repaired.

BHO BLUES

BHO sounds great, though I've never had the opportunity to try it. It seems like one would need a lot of pot to produce such a concentrated product, and a high level of skill required to make it. Honestly, we'd all like to try it, but BHO is not available in many cities, nor are the tools required to ingest it properly. In those states and cities where it's already popular, tokers can easily find what they need to "do a dab," but things are different in the non-medical states. I'd say it's one of those "dream things" for most cannabis connoisseurs (like eating fresh lobster in Kansas as opposed to Maine).

A Good Reader

URINE TROUBLE

I'm applying for a job with a very conservative corporation and I enjoy cannabis. Needless to say, a positive drug test—or even having a package with drug-related words delivered to my house—would spell disaster for me. Do you know of any companies that sell effective flush products that are shipped discreetly? (Meaning in a plain wrapper, with no drug-related words or images on the package and no other indication of the contents.) Please help!

Roger

PS: I read my copy of *High Times* cover to cover every month. Your shipping methods are a perfect example of discreet shipping. Thank you!

Send your letters to:
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Email: hteditor@hightimes.com

Thanks for the kind words, Roger. Check out Formula 420 at itsalways420.com for a safe and discreetly shipped product.

OBAMA LIED!

I've been enjoying pot for over 40 years, and what strikes me when reading *High Times* is how liberal the magazine comes across. In the eight years of the Bush administration, a great deal of positive ground was covered to legalize this harmless herb, and then it took the Obama administration only three years to destroy it. Obama said he would leave marijuana alone and let the states decide; instead, the DEA and the Department of Justice have done nothing but come down hard on marijuana dispensaries.

I want to see marijuana finally legalized, and it's time for Democrats and Republicans to stand up and say that Obama lied to us.

The federal law enforcement system is broken and needs to be rethought and repaired before they come up with more such bright ideas as Operation Fast and Furious. Pot does *not* have political sides; it only has people who are misinformed.

Bill Sr.

We agree with you that Obama has been a disaster for the movement, but we have to take issue with your assertion that *High Times* is a "liberal" magazine afraid to tell it like it is when it comes to the Obama administration's pot policies.

CORRECTIONS

"The Medicine Man," (Dec. '12, HT) was written by Jenny Flowers, not Freebie. Freebie was the photographer.

"Home(grown) Depot," (Jan. '13, HT) contained the wrong QR code, intended to point to our YouTube video about building a growroom from supplies bought at Home Depot. Check out the video using the proper code below or visit hightimes.com/growcloset.





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HYDRO REPORT This mega-grow utilizes hydroponic technology to grow massive marijuana plants quickly and efficiently. This year's *2013 Hydro Report* (page 45) offers an in-depth investigation into water-based cannabis cultivation, techniques, innovative products and other ways to increase harvest yields. *Photo by Felix Green*







**Contact
High**

BOLDLY GOING WHERE NO STONER HAS GONE BEFORE In the *Star Trek* universe, Romulans are the pointy-eared, interplanetary cousins of the Vulcans. The big difference is that while the latter prided themselves on their peaceful and logical esthetic, the former were a decidedly illogical, vengeful bunch. So when this stoner got ahold of a Northern California-grown batch of the Romulan strain, he chose to do what any rational-minded Vulcan would find most illogical. Learn how to roll a Cali Cannon on page 56. *Photo by Lochfoot*







February 2013 **High Times**

SEARCHING FOR NEW STRAINS For the cannabis connoisseur, few things are as exciting as the discovery of a new strain, and growers across the globe are trying to breed those winning genetics right now. This brand new Raindrop Kush, photographed by Lochfoot, was grown outdoor in Northern California. Check out "High in the Sierras" (page 58) and learn about a grower whose life is dedicated to finding that perfect cross.

**Contact
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MONKEY DONG

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Highwitness News

**Brad Pitt
sounds off
on the Drug
War.**



Entertainment

Turbo Fruits

High adventure at the Canadian border p.27



Food

Morning Mocha

The best part of waking up is getting baked. p.34



The Rio Grande is the dividing point between El Paso, TX and Mexico. But the entire US border is a danger zone.



But you'd be mistaken: The Border Patrol has the legal authority to detain you, a US citizen, for questioning at any of its 71 permanent or roving traffic checkpoints within 100 miles of the US border, just for driving up to that checkpoint.

In fact, according to the Government Accountability Office, Border Patrol agents at such checkpoints "have legal authority that agents do not have when patrolling areas away from the border. The United States Supreme Court ruled that Border Patrol agents may stop a vehicle at fixed checkpoints for brief questioning of its occupants even if there is no reason to believe that the particular vehicle

contains illegal aliens. The Court further held that Border Patrol agents 'have wide discretion' to refer motorists selectively to a secondary inspection area for additional brief questioning."

The putative reason for stopping you, of course, is to make sure that you're a legal citizen—but the real reason is to detain you long enough to allow a drug-sniffing dog to detect your weed and give the cops probable cause to search you. The practice is so common that El Paso defense lawyers have specific "Sierra Blanca Checkpoint Marijuana Bust" pages on their websites.

"Okay, that sucks," you're thinking, "but I never wanted to go to West Texas anyway." Alas, this 100-mile "Constitution-free zone"—an area in which federal police agents don't have to abide by the Fourth Amendment—actually applies

Beware of the Border

Border Patrol agents can now legally detain two-thirds of Americans without cause. *By Russ Belville*

What do hardcore metal growler Chris Barnes of the band Six Feet Under, original gangsta rapper Snoop Dogg and living country legend Willie Nelson all have in common (besides being professional musicians)? They've all been busted for weed on Interstate 10 in Sierra Blanca, TX—and they've all had to sit in jail because of it.

Sierra Blanca is located in the West Texas county of Hudspeth, whose entire population would fit inside Radio City Music Hall. Before gaining fame for routinely arresting musicians in their

tour buses, the town was known back in the 1990s as "America's Largest Sewage Dump." So how did Sierra Blanca (population: approximately 550 unfortunate souls) become famous as the place that busted singer Fiona Apple, rappers Paul Wall and Baby Bash, and hacker Geohot (among others) for pot? By also being home to one of the United States' 32 permanent Border Patrol traffic checkpoints near the southern border with Mexico.

The Border Patrol, you might think, is something you'd only encounter if you were—wait for it—crossing the border.

« to *every inch* of the US border. That would mean the Mexican *and* Canadian borders, of course, as well as all of our coastlines, which include the shores of the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Great Lakes and the Gulf of Mexico.

In fact, the ACLU found that two-thirds of the US population lives somewhere within this 100-mile swath encompassing all of our border areas and coasts. According to the ACLU, nine of the country's 10 largest metropolitan areas fall within this zone (Dallas-Fort Worth is the only exception), and a number of states are considered to lie *completely* within this zone: Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont.

At any time in this area, Border Patrol agents have the authority to set up checkpoints and detain American citizens—randomly and without cause—for interrogation and search. This was the case with students and professors from the University of Maine last year, when the Border Patrol set up an Orwellian-named “temporary permanent checkpoint” 75 miles from the Canadian border and quizzed them on their immigration status. As a result, foreign-born students and scholars are

Border Patrol agents have the authority to set up checkpoints and detain American citizens—randomly and without cause.

now being advised to carry their original visas and other papers to avoid detention and arrest.

In Rochester, NY, where the nearest border is 65 miles away in Buffalo, another aspect of the Border Patrol's power is abused: the power to conduct “walkthroughs and interrogations” of passengers on mass transit. People traveling on Amtrak trains, Greyhound buses or using the city's small airport have all been accosted by agents from the Rochester Border Patrol office, which has grown from seven to 27 officers since 2008, despite the fact that the city lacks any actual port of entry.

“We've had hundreds of students questioned and stopped and inconvenienced, and perhaps a dozen students, scholars or family members who've been detained or jailed,” says Cary M. Jensen, director of the International Services Office at the University of Rochester, speaking to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. “For international visitors who see

[government agents] boarding trains, pulling people off, asking for documents, it feels a lot like East Germany did when I visited in 1980.”

And just to make it crystal clear what those agents are hoping to find: According to the US Customs and Border Protection service, its marijuana seizures in 2009 totaled over 4.3 million pounds, while its arrest of undocumented immigrants has fallen to the lowest levels since the 1970s. Just over 327,000 illegal immigrants were caught in 2011, a figure that's down 53.5 percent from 2008. Ironically, part of the decline in border crossings is attributable to the takeover of the human-trafficking market by huge drug gangs—which, of course, only became huge in the first place because the Border Patrol's weed seizures have kept their business so highly profitable. ✨

“Radical” Russ Belville is the executive producer of National Cannabis Radio (nationalcannabisradio.com).

HIGH FIVE

Shot for Pot

Who says marijuana isn't dangerous? Turns out it is—but blame law enforcement for that. *By Mark Miller*



WILLIAM REDDIE

Last February in Grayling, MI, Reddie was killed by a county sheriff when Child Protective Services tried to seize his 3-year-old son from Reddie's residence. Earlier, a cop reported smelling pot at the home on a domestic dispute call. Reddie was killed after he allegedly pulled a knife. It turns out CPS and sheriffs shouldn't have been summoned; no pot or booze was found in Reddie's system.



JOHN HUSBAND III

Husband, 21, was killed by a Dallas cop in June after being pulled over for a traffic violation. Officer Limbaugh ordered Husband out of the car after smelling pot. He claimed Husband reached for a pistol, forcing Limbaugh to shoot him in self-defense. Husband's two passengers say differently: There was no struggle for a gun. Instead, Husband tried to run away and was shot in the back.



RAMARLEY GRAHAM

18-year-old Graham was killed by a New York City cop at his Bronx residence in February. He was chased by plainclothes narcs, who allegedly spotted a gun on him. Wrong! Graham had no weapons when he was gunned down in his bathroom trying to flush a paltry amount of pot. Officer Richard Haste was charged with manslaughter. He pleaded not guilty, saying he had “no choice.”



CHAVIS CARTER

After being arrested by Jonesboro, AR, police in July for possession of an undisclosed amount of pot in his vehicle, the 21-year-old Carter allegedly committed suicide with a small-caliber handgun that he somehow fired into his right temple despite having been previously searched for weapons by the cops—and with his hands cuffed behind his back. Carter's relatives insist he wasn't suicidal.



WENDELL ALLEN

Last March, 20-year-old Allen was unarmed when a New Orleans cop shot him to death while serving a search warrant on Allen's residence on suspicion of (low-level) pot distribution. Police Officer Colclough was indicted on manslaughter charges over Allen's death. The Louisiana Justice Institute planned to threaten the City with a lawsuit if Colclough wasn't charged.



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Dutch Weed Pass Dies

The brand-new centrist Dutch government has just introduced a provisional pact that terminates the controversial "weed pass" program, which was introduced in May. The so-called *wietpas* restricted access to coffeeshops to registered residents in the Southern Netherlands, effectively banning foreign tourists. The now-defunct right-wing government planned to implement the program nationwide in 2013. Thankfully, the more moderate Liberal and Labor Parties presently governing the Netherlands nixed the idea. Even more encouraging, the new agreement allows each individual city to decide whether or not to ban non-Dutch citizens from legally purchasing pot at coffee-shops. (Amsterdam had previously declared that it would not participate in the system.)

In its short history, the weed pass managed to revive black market pot sales and widely piss off coffeeshop owners who suffered financially due to the ban on foreign tourists. The change in policy offers hope for further changes in the program in the coming year.

Brad calls the Drug War a "backward strategy."



Pitt vs. Prohibition

Early in 2012, Brad Pitt derided the pot use of his early years. But by year's end, he was denouncing the War on Drugs. In a *Hollywood Reporter* interview promoting the Sundance grand-prize winning anti-drug war documentary *The House I Live In*, for which he served as executive producer, Pitt stated he no longer gets high, but could fly into any US city and find any drug he desired within 24 hours. "We still support this charade called the Drug War," he said. "We spent a trillion dollars over 40 years and a lot of people have lost their lives over it."

He added that he produced *The House I Live In* because "the subject has bugged me for a long time. It's a backward strategy. It makes no sense and we keep going on the path like we're winning, when it perpetuates more drugs being used."

Pitt's truthfulness is welcome. Especially since he's been sending mixed signals over the past few years. He told the *Hollywood Reporter* in January: "I got really sick of myself at the end of the 1990's. I was hiding out from the celebrity thing, I was smoking way too much dope, I was sitting on the couch and just turning into a doughnut and I really got irritated with myself."

But insiders say that Pitt is actually obsessed with legalizing pot and thinks it could be the biggest moneymaker since the Internet. And when he was married to Jennifer Aniston, the couple's fondness for pot was well known. In fact, he publicly praised pot. However, marriage to Angelina Jolie's influence seems to have quenched his pleasure.

All the same, Pitt gets a big thumbs up.



Fly High on Air Italia

Breathing in Italy may be illegal, because according to a new study trace elements of cocaine and marijuana are floating in the atmosphere of eight tested cities. The study, "Airborne psychotropic substances in eight Italian big cities: Burdens and behaviours," was published in *Environmental Pollution*. The air of otto città d'Italia was examined for one year starting in May 2010 and confirming previous research conducted exclusively in Rome: Nicotine, caffeine, cannabis and coke are in the air! Don't book your ticket though; there's no chance of a buzz.

Palermo had the least amount detected while Turin had the most. Florence had the most airborne cannabis, likely due to its large number of college students.

There was also a seasonal component to pot use; levels of cocaine and nicotine were consistent throughout the year, but caffeine and cannabis were considerably higher in winter months. Levels of both pot and caffeine dropped to nearly zero in May through August.

The purpose of this unique research? To aid the Italian government in administering anti-drug resources like treatment—and, of course, law enforcement—in the tested cities.

Le Cannabis Correction

France may be known for its laissez-faire attitude toward sex and drinking, but don't look for pot to be legalized anytime soon. Though the French Socialist government has debated decriminalization in recent months, Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault announced his nation would not be ending marijuana prohibition following the pro-legalization spiel of Education Minister Vincent Peillon broadcast on radio wherein he suggested the question deserves serious debate.

He also expressed support for the Minister of the Interior's recent call for legal medical pot, stating: "I'm sometimes amazed at how slow France has been to react to a problem that is staring it in the face."

After the leader of the rightist opposition party demanded clarification of Peillon's comments, PM Ayrault's office released an official statement: There will be no decriminalization. Peillon was forced to backtrack. His remarks, he said, had been merely a matter of "personal reflection."

Uh-huh.

Reflect on this: France's pot laws suck. The courts embrace zero tolerance and simple possession can earn a prison sentence of up to one year.

Back To School At Oaksterdam U

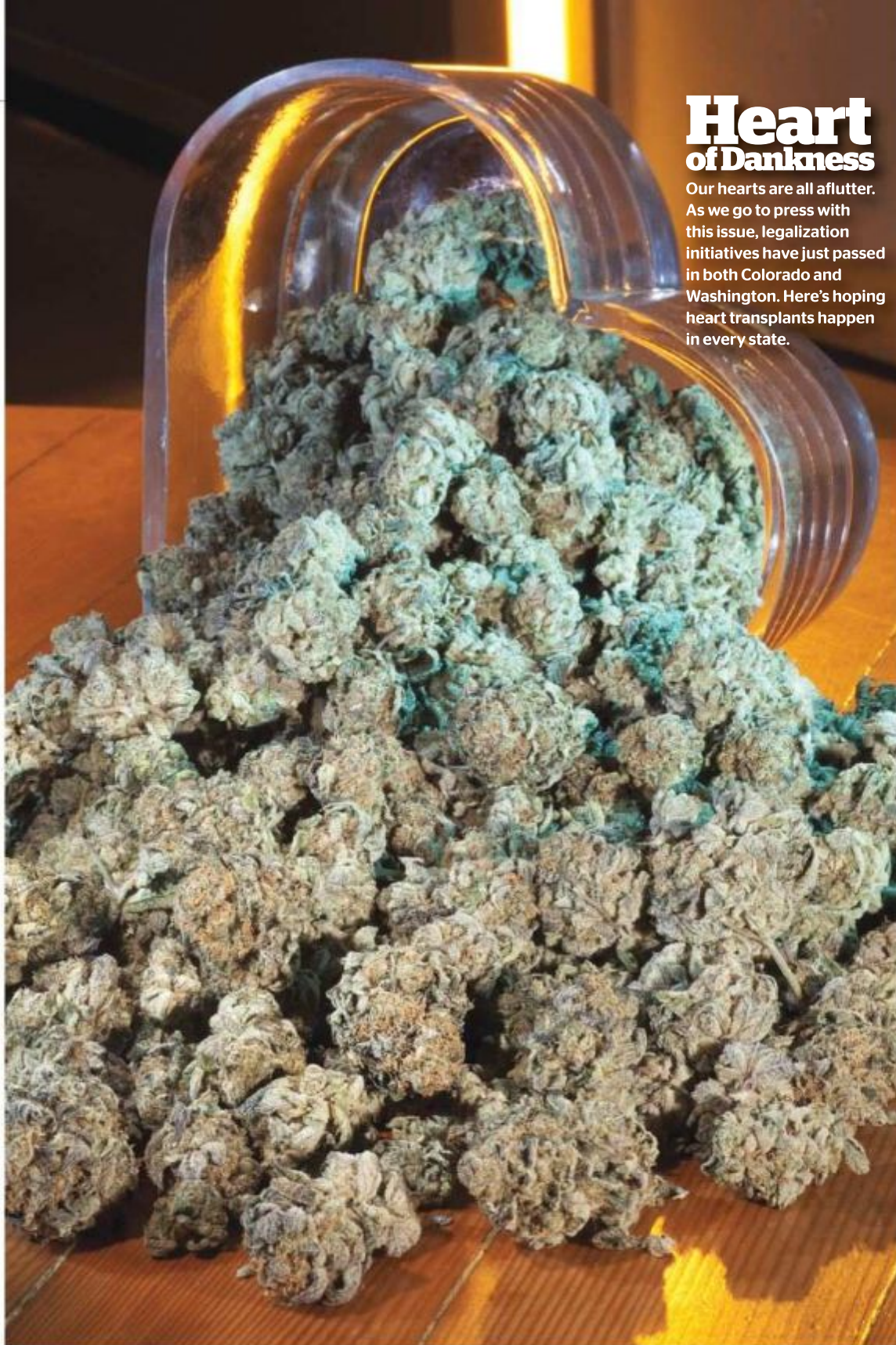
Unceremoniously raided and left for dead by the Feds in April, Oaksterdam University has risen from the metaphorical ashes. In the fall semester, the curriculum resumed with the Outdoor Horticulture class, a 10-week course that covers land preparation to harvest). During the April raid, the Feds seized all of OU's records, plants and revenue, prompting the resignation of OU founder Richard Lee. The comeback is being led by executive chancellor Dale Sky Jones.

In September, Oaksterdam held a high-profile event featuring Peace and Freedom Party US presidential candidate Roseanne Barr for a "Town Hall Meeting" to discuss medical pot and legalization in general.

Latin America Sees the Light

If the US ever wants to get serious about ending drug prohibition, maybe we should look south for answers. Latin America has stepped to the forefront of global drug decriminalization.

Uruguay's national legislature is ironing out a bill to legalize sales of marijuana that leftist President José Mujica has vowed to sign into law. In September, Guatemalan President Otto Pérez Molina called for drug legalization at a U.N. General Assembly held in his Central American home country. A former, avid drug warrior, he now admits prohibition is failing. His proposal pissed off the US, but it was hailed by the Presidents of Mexico and Colombia. Both nations have decriminalized simple pot possession, and a Colombian court recently decriminalized small amounts of cocaine. Chile's Congress is debating a bill decriminalizing personal cannabis cultivation and Argentina's legislature introduced a measure that would decriminalize all drugs for recreational use.



Heart of Dankness

Our hearts are all aflutter. As we go to press with this issue, legalization initiatives have just passed in both Colorado and Washington. Here's hoping heart transplants happen in every state.

We Put the 'US' in "Bust"

Drug busts are a top priority for America's cops. One happens every 21 seconds and almost half of those are for pot. With violent crime on the decline, the underlying purpose of the Drug War has revealed itself: Perpetuate it!

In 2011, there was a pot-related arrest every 42 seconds

across the US. The good news? That was actually a decrease in the frequency of nationwide pot busts from the previous year.

According to the latest FBI Uniform Crime Reporting data, there were 757,969 total pot busts in 2011—more than 87 percent for possession—down from 853,838 pot arrests in 2010. By region, the Midwest and its harsher pot laws recorded the highest percentage of busts for both

pot sales and possession. The relatively liberal and medical pot-friendly West checked in with the lowest percentage of busts for possession. Unsurprisingly, the notoriously anti-pot South had the lowest percentages of sales and manufacturing arrests—maybe it's just too damned dangerous! Meanwhile, the Northeast fell in between the two extremes in both possession and manufacturing.

HIGHWIRE

Dispatches from the international drug war. *By Bill Weinberg*

Aung San Suu Kyi

Burma: Inside the Golden Triangle

Burmese pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi's September visit to the United States received wide media attention as she met with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. But the world paid little notice as, simultaneously, fighting flared up in Burma's northern Kachin state between government troops and the Kachin Independence Army, leaving at least 150 people displaced. Villagers have taken refuge in the town of Hpakant in the western part of the state, where local relief groups are struggling to provide assistance to some 1,000 people who have fled the fighting in the countryside over the past months. On September 21, hundreds of courageous activists held a peaceful march in Rangoon to call for an end to the conflict in Burma's opium-growing north—the largest demonstration in the city since the 2007 Saffron Revolution protests. Ironically, the renewed fighting in the north seems related to the aggressive opium eradication campaign that the government has undertaken there as the payoff for getting back into Washington's good graces.



Coke cultivation on the rise.

Peru Nearly Equals Colombia in Coca Production

Peru's coca crop increased by some 5.2 percent in 2011, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, marking the sixth consecutive year that cultivation has increased in the Andean nation. Some 64,400 hectares of coca cultivation were detected in satellite images, compared with the estimated 61,200 hectares cultivated in 2010. But even though Peru is rapidly catching up, Colombia remains South America's top producer of coca leaf, a position it has held since 1997, despite decreases in production since 2006. The report found that in 2011, Colombia produced 41.6 percent of the world's coca, while Peru cultivated 40.7 percent and Bolivia 17.7 percent.



Evo Morales

Challenging the US Over the "Blacklist"

For the fourth straight year, the White House narcotics "blacklist" (officially the Presidential Determination on Major Illicit Drug Transit and Drug Producing Countries, released September 14) named Venezuela and Bolivia as having "failed demonstrably" to fight the narco trade, making them ineligible for US aid.

The governments in Caracas and La Paz responded angrily to the announcement. "Venezuela deplores the United States government's insistence on undermining bilateral relations by publishing this kind of document, with no respect for the sovereignty and dignity of the Venezuelan people," the

Venezuelan Foreign Ministry said, accusing Washington of a "permanent line of aggression against independent sovereign governments."

Bolivian President Evo Morales also weighed in: "The United States has no morality, authority or ethics that would allow it to speak about the War on Drugs. Do you know why? Because the biggest market for cocaine and other drugs is the United States. They should tell us by what percentage they have reduced the internal market."

Mexico: Gulf Cartel Arrests, Continuing Bloodshed

In September, Mexican naval forces in the oil port of Tampico arrested Jorge Eduardo Costilla Sánchez, a.k.a. "El Coss"—notorious leader of the Gulf Cartel—along with five associates, apparently without resistance. Authorities hailed it as a major blow against the criminal organization,



"El Coss"

coming just a week after the arrest of another Gulf Cartel kingpin, Mario Cárdenas Guillén, a.k.a. "El Gordo" (Fatso)—the brother of Osiel Cárdenas Guillén, who led the cartel until he was detained in 2003.

With the arrest of El Coss, Mexican authorities say they have now captured or killed 12 of the 24 figures identified by the Prosecutor General of the Republic as controlling the country's narco trade. However, there are also fears that the arrests of top cartel leaders could exacerbate power struggles within the organizations and actually escalate the violence. On September 14, officials found 16 bodies at two locations near the Texas border in Tamaulipas state. Nine more corpses,

including the body of a teenager, were found in Nuevo Laredo—eight shot to death and one hanging from a bridge. Another seven bodies, most of them bound, were found in the town of San Fernando, near the place where a mass grave containing 74 migrants was discovered in August 2010.



Jorge Luis Morán

Los Zetas in Border Jailbreak

Controversy surrounds a September 17 jailbreak in Piedras Negras, a border town in Coahuila, in which 131 inmates escaped. Although the convicts were originally reported to have fled through a tunnel, authorities later said they walked out the facility's front door. The prison's director and other city officials have since been detained. Only three of the escaped inmates have been recaptured, said Jorge Luis Morán, the Coahuila public security secretary. "There was total complicity, collusion and betrayal from the officers charged with preventing them from escaping," he said. Morán also stated that Los Zetas were behind the jailbreak. ✱

For world updates, see Bill Weinberg's websites, GlobalGanjaReport.com and WorldWar4Report.com.

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A Turbo Fruits strategy session.

After finding Stein's stash, the Canadian Border Services agent "turns to me and goes, 'You little fucker,'" recalls the singer-guitarist.

toke. Of course, they tried to discourage young Jonas from smoking back in his teenage years, but today they accept his herbal pastime—so much so that sometimes he even smokes with their friends.

While they were busy churning out *Butter*, Turbo Fruits relied on the kindness of another (somewhat younger) elder, producer and Spoon drummer Jim Eno, whose Silver Surfer vape became the studio's creative centerpiece. (Stein rhapsodically points out that Eno and his Spoon bandmates were each gifted with a vaporizer for making so many weed references in their songs.) "It's good to smoke before multiple takes," Stein notes. "You last a whole lot longer."

The band will even be releasing a limited edition of their new album on pot-butter-colored vinyl—which is more a tribute than a joke. In their five years (or so) of existence, Turbo Fruits have gone through a handful of line-up changes before the present one finally stuck. "Weed keeps us sane on tour," Stein says earnestly. "Mornings are the worst, so we take a couple of puffs and everyone starts enjoying each other's company. It helps keep us happy on the road."

Except in Canada. Adds Stein: "We never travel with anything illegal over the border. Ever." 🌿

Baring Fruit

Up-and-coming garage rockers Turbo Fruits recall being strip-searched at the Canadian border. *By Nisha Gopalan*

Believe it or not, some people hate the idea of going to Canada. The taxes are high and the winters are bone-chilling—or, you know, maybe hockey's not your thing. But if you ask Turbo Fruits frontman and Nashville native Jonas Stein for a good reason to keep south of that border, he'll have two words to offer you: *strip searches*.

In 2008, the then-nascent band (who recently dropped their third rollicking studio album, *Butter*) were summoned to Detroit by Drew Barrymore to appear in her directorial debut, the rollerderby comedy *Whip It*. En route to the Motor City, Stein and his bandmates took a wrong turn and wound up on a bridge that connects the city to Canada.

After finding Stein's stash, the Canadian Border Services agent "turns to me and goes, 'You little fucker,'" recalls the

singer-guitarist. The border cops cuffed the trio, threw them into a waiting room and read them their rights—and then each Turbo Fruit quietly died inside as the officer crowed, "We're going to have to do individual strip searches."

"My initial response was, 'I have nothing up my ass!'" Stein says. "He was like, 'Sorry.'" The border agent told him to take off one item of clothing at a time and kick it to him on the floor. "He told me to lift my boys and spread my ass cheeks and all that shit." Meanwhile, the band could hear "the rest of the idiot border-patrol shithead Canadians in the other room talking about pressing the scale while weighing my stuff." After about four hours of mind games and unpleasantness, the three were finally free birds once again.

These days, the band—who

boast a collection of weed anthems like "Ain't the Only One Having Fun," "Mama's Mad 'Cos I Fried My Brain" and "Volcano" (about Stein's first time using a vape)—have taken to hiding their herb in the recesses of their touring van ... with the aid of magnets. "It's, like, in the guts of the van," Stein explains proudly. "It's in these hunter boxes from REI, airtight and waterproof. It's so far back and so dark that you can't see it."

His fastidiousness in hiding his green is admirable, but smoking weed has never really seemed like a shameful thing to Stein, whose mom and dad (a manager in the music biz) both used to



Butter Not Budder

"Not so into the one-hit-wonder ticket to hell." That's Turbo Fruits' Jonas Stein reaction to dabs. "It gets me way too high. I was relieved once it wore off." *Butter*, the band's latest album hints at Stein's talent: "I've definitely made several brownie batches in my lifetime."

Dope Side of the Moon

Dope Body take heavy to a new, strange place. *By John Payne*

The unusual suspects.



Drummer Dave Jacober and singer Andrew Laumann of Baltimore's Dope Body don't exactly care if you think their music's strange. In fact, that strangeness is partly the point. A most exhilaratingly confusing piece of rock-aligned sound art, the band's *Natural History* album is, on the one hand, metal-monster mayhem and power-punk punch. But that's just on the one hand, since when you're not looking, they'll fracture the mix into painfully sharp shards of mathy precision-rock and tricky quasi-jazz stuff that makes you think, "Hey, wait a minute—these guys aren't just a bunch of slacker slobes after all!"

"I don't really care what people say we sound like," says Jacober. "But I think it's punk rock, definitely. We don't need to be any one genre; we don't need to do anything a certain way. We're just being us—and if you don't like it, don't listen to it."

Okay, okay. But when Laumann opens his mouth and splutteringly starts to "sing" over the noisy, plodding stoner thrash of the album's

opener, "Shook" ("I'm goin' all the way!"), things do get genuinely weird. His echo-chambered howls aren't just indecipherable—they're downright threatening. Frankly, the man sounds mentally ill, or at least really, really mad about something.

"Pot loosens me up, and I get extrovert! Sometimes people are like 'WTF?' and they just kinda stare."

"Oh my God," says Jacober with a laugh, "I'd rather not know what he's on about. Andrew's a pretty aggressive person, always pissed off about something. When he's singing, he's releasing some sort of ... energy."

"Well, we have a lot of influences, and when we're playing, it's open-ended as to what we're trying to get to at

the moment," Laumann puts in. "Anyway, we're okay with being called a 'noise rock' band."

Dope Body, which also includes guitarist/pedal wiz Zachary Utz and bassist John Jones, is indeed one large pile of bands all squished together like, well, nothing that makes any normal sense anyway. And that's good: While the album offers tracks like "Weird Mirror" that ripsaw punk rock in a fairly clear-cut way, other songs like "Beat" ("You talkin' to me?") lay down the scary stuff: discordant grunge tonnage and haywire noisy tonal irritations like you've come to expect from any self-respecting black/death metal combo. But DB like to get mathy, too—for example in "Powder" and "Road Dog," with their thorny, rhythmic weaves and slantingly *moderne* guitar ramen; or "Twice the Life," with its

guitars/bass/drums counterpoint and a gloriously aerified guitar solo that devolves into a maelstrom of wicked, *wicked* distortion doomery.

By the way, the band's name isn't meant to be taken literally, or any other way at all.

"It's kind of a joke that the band's called Dope Body, because it sounds like a drug band, but it's not," says Jacober. "Then again, we are kind of stoners, y'know? Smoking weed is a big part of the Baltimore scene. It's everywhere, and we all smoke it. Why? Because it's fun, and it's something we've always shared."

"Dave and I smoke most of the time before and after performances," says Laumann. "Pot loosens me up, and I get extrovert! Sometimes people are like 'WTF?' and they just kinda stare. We like that, actually. I'm just happy when people listen." 🌿



Bands, Buds and Baltimore

"It's a big part of the Baltimore scene, there's weed everywhere. We have this thing called the Mad Heady, like, if even if food is good it's like 'Oh, that's heady, bro.' We're making fun of the fact that we're stoners, yknow?"—Andrew

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Craig has been called this generation's "troubadour piano man," (*Jambands.com*) combining the pop sensibilities and greatly skilled musicianship of Billy Joel and Ben Folds with the lyrical smarts of Randy Newman.

His voice brims with soul and personality coming from his strong native New Yorker identity and also from his experience getting his start while living abroad, performing in the bars



and on the streets of Chile and Spain from 2002 to 2004. Since his return to NY, Craig has been a mainstay in the downtown and Brooklyn music scene, and has toured the US and abroad.

Craig's songs run the gamut from light-hearted to dark and edgy. It's his range as a songwriter that sets him apart.

In November 2007, Craig co-produced and released his debut EP, *The World and Back*, and in August of 2010 he released the follow up, *Spinning In Time*. He is currently working on his first full-length record, which will be released in spring 2013.

For more information, including audio samples and tour dates, head to hightimes.com/craig-greenberg.

She might be small, but she's smoking tall.



Rolling Thunder

Wheelchair Sports Camp packs a big punch in a small package.

It's rapper Kalyn Heffernan's 25th birthday. She's sitting in her wheelchair at a Mexican restaurant in Denver, surrounded by a posse that includes assorted friends, the agitprop street artist who designed graphics for her group and, right beside her, her girlfriend. Kalyn's known as a self-assured, blunt-smoking hellion with a wicked sense of humor, an activist associated with the Occupy movement, a beat-making disciple of hip-hop.

"Happy birthday to you!" begins the serenade on her behalf.

"Lou-der!" Kalyn insists.

Kalyn belongs to the Colorado-based hip-hop act Wheelchair Sports Camp. Her group's name derives from a summer camp for disabled kids that she attended as a youth. Kalyn has osteogenesis imperfecta, sometimes known as "brittle-bone disease," which necessitates the use of a wheelchair. "I'm stronger than a six-year-old, but I am shorter than a five-year-old, probably," she laughs. At camp, Kalyn wasn't much interested in sports, preferring instead to listen to rap music and cause mischief.

If her fragile skeleton—her bones break easily—had never left her wheelchair-bound, Kalyn likes to think that "I would have been a lot more trouble. That was my way of being trouble: rapping about trouble."

In addition to Kalyn (the sole disabled member), Wheelchair Sports Camp consists of Abi McGaha Miller, 23, on saxophone and vocals, and her brother Isaac McGaha Miller, 25, on drums. Kalyn delivers a high-pitched stream of witty, socially conscious lyrics. Isaac supplements Kalyn's computer beats and samples with his own

thunderous rhythmic drumming, which, as he puts it, "helps everything groove together." And Abi contributes a powerfully resonant white-soul voice, bouncing her own thoughtful lyrical perspective off Kalyn's wordings, while embroidering the tunes with a haunting arabesque of sax riffs.

A mutual friend introduced Kalyn and Abi to each other while both were studying music in Denver, eventually leading the pair to team up. Wheelchair Sports Camp's recent EP, *Where We All Live*, can be heard or purchased on bandcamp.com.

Kalyn raps about how she likes to "blaze the herbal essence" and how "I do my best high." Despite the fact that her right lung isn't fully formed, "I like to smoke like I'm regular-sized ... I chief blunts on a regular basis."

"Living in Colorado, it's a really important time to be a weed smoker," says Abi, who plans to cast her vote this November in support of the Colorado ballot initiative legalizing and regulating marijuana like alcohol.

Isaac agrees with his little sister: "It's silly how marijuana prohibition has gotten out of hand. Especially in Colorado—marijuana's so ubiquitous."

What lies ahead in the coming year for Wheelchair Sports Camp? They're looking to record a full-length release, tour some regions for the first time, and expand their fan base across the globe. "We just want to try taking over the world, one step at a time," says Abi.

Or one intrepid roll of the wheelchair at a time, as the case may be. *Gregory Daurer*

For more info, go to wheelchairsportscamp.co.

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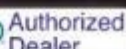
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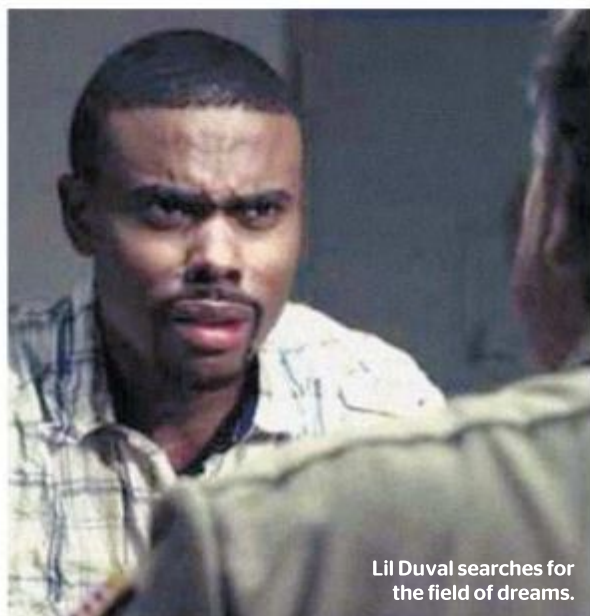


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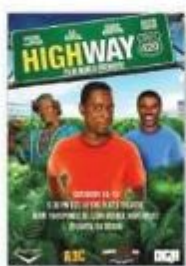
Lil Duval searches for the field of dreams.

Taking the High Road

Hip-hop hijinx in *Highway 420*

Prepare yourself for the best hood-meets-hillbilly marijuana goose chase since ... well, whenever, dude. *Highway 420*'s hip-star cast of characters includes Mary Jane musical master Devin "the Dude" Copeland, comedian Roland "Lil Duval" Powell, actor Keith David, producer/comic Eddie Griffin (in hillbilly white-face, no less) and comedian Gary Owen, just to name a few.

Devin the Dude and Lil Duval play brothers Ray Ray and Earl, a couple of guys who just wanna have fun. But when a minor scrape lands them in lockup, Earl's tipped off by his celly, Tommy "Tiny" Lister, about the mythical Highway 420 in Kentucky (which definitely beats the "tip" that Tiny first seemed he was going to give poor ol' Earl).



Highway 420
Directed by Coke Daniels
(Lionsgate)

The mission unfolds to reach this "marijuana nirvana" and relieve some already warring rednecks of their "sticky green extraterrestrial shit," so that the brothers can come back and buy their way out of the hood. Aided along the way by an esoteric Erik Estrada and perfect-pinup Hollywood newcomer Elle Capone, the

pair manage to leave behind a trail of mayhem, missteps and some awkward attempts at acting like cowboys. So yeah, it's a comedy, and a good one, which is great news for lovers of "high"-quality films everywhere.

You can expect a little bit of *Deliverance*, a dash of *Kingpin*, a dose of *Friday*—but given the hilarity-inducing cast, outrageous situations, numerous blunts and *sativa*-paced storyline, *Highway* is destined to stand on its own as a classic in the realm of stoner-moviedom. And check out the soundtrack on High Times Records! *Mary Ought Six*

MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS



Jah9
9MM: Message Music, Vol. 1
(jah9.net)

➤ Janine "Jah9" Cunningham is putting a musical 9mm to your earholes and blasting them with "new life." Drawing from the same deep well as reggae legends Bob Marley and Peter Tosh, Jah9's lyrics are filled with uplifting Rastafari philosophy, utilizing passages from Haile

Selassie I, Marcus Garvey and Walter Rodney. The themes of love, solidarity and truth are sung, spoken and woven together by the magical fusion of Jah9's powerful voice and the fantastic, thumping modern dub beats combined with traditional reggae's rhythms and blues. *Mary Ought Six*



Neil Young
Psychedelic Pill
(Reprise)

➤ Neil Young had no intention of making his new album easy to swallow—two 16-plus-minute tracks and a 27-minute opener guarantee that—but he's already demonstrated the skill to keep lengthy songs interesting (e.g., "Like a Hurricane"). Though there are a few self-indulgent moments

Psychedelic Pill is mostly enjoyable, with much of it recalling Young's earliest work with Crazy Horse. While the epic tracks attract attention, terrific shorter tunes dot the album, including "Twisted Road," wherein Neil compares Dylan to Hank Williams chewing bubblegum. *Chris Parker*



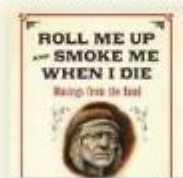
Lightning Bolt
Oblivion Hunter
(Load)

➤ If ever an album title matched a band's style, it would be *Oblivion Hunter* from veteran experimental (don't call them "noise") duo Lightning Bolt. "King Candy" is a solid depiction of the Bolts' musical MO: maniac percussion driving rollicking, atonal prog laced with

sublime sensibilities. Their obscure melodicism is front and center on the 13-minute epic "World Wob-bly Wide." Though their studio efforts will never quite match the ferocity of their live shows, there's a method—and a magic—to Lightning Bolt's madness.

Mark Miller

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die: Musings From the Road
Willie Nelson with Kinky Friedman
(William Morrow)

➤ Willie Nelson is no Marcel Proust, but that just means his new book is a hell of a lot more fun to read than *Remembrance of Things Past*. As befits an improvisational musician, *Roll Me Up and Smoke Me ...* is a series of journal entries: conversational riffs about family, friends, influences,

politics, the wisdom gleaned from 79 years of an epic life—and music. Pithy epiphanies for the short-attention-spanned tumble from this unapologetic stoner's cannabinoided imagination: "If it ain't broke—break it" is just one of the mighty maverick's quotable quips.

Michael Simmons

FILM RECOMMENDATIONS



Adventures in Plymptoons
Directed by Alexia Anastasio
(Cinema Libre Studio)

➤ Bill Plympton loves drawing, women and drugs, and you can expect all of the above in this documentary. (Ron Jeremy talking about Plympton's genius while receiving fellatio is a highlight.) His illustrations are gritty, historical, psychedelic,

irreverent and self-deprecating. As Plympton puts it, "Having sex and hearing people laugh are two of my favorite things, so ... in a perfect world, if I were having sex in a movie cinema while people were laughing at my film, I would be in heaven." *Mary Ought Six*



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MUNCHIES

Cheeba Dragon Morning Mocha

The ultimate hippie speedball?

For a long time now, I've considered Amsterdam's famously thick and delicious "hash hot chocolate" to be the pinnacle of enjoyment for my first love in life—chocolate, that is—especially since it also delivers the active ingredients of my second great love: cannabis. But while hash hot chocolate is still awesome (*duh*), I've found a new way to enjoy those extra-special

ingredients.

Green Dragon sugar is one of my new favorite things (and if you don't know by now what a Green Dragon is, you are hereby instructed to go on the Internet and look it up). I was introduced to it by my friend (and super MJ breeder) Jim, who points out, "It's like Mary Poppins says: 'Just a spoonful of sugar helps the *medicine* go down ...'" Truer words have never been sung.

This recipe can also be manipulated in, oh, about 420 different ways. While it's the perfect drink for the end of winter, making an iced version of this concoction is every bit as easy (just chill and add the rocks). Mocha or cocoa? Up to you. Use the sugar alone in tea, as a topping, or by the straight spoonful? Why not! In fact, you can even put a drop-per of Green Dragon under your tongue while you fix up the rest as a chaser. Oh, the possibilities! *Mary Ought Six*

MORNING MOCHA

Green Dragon:

5 grams marijuana buds, well cured
(bake in a shallow pan at 300°F for 10 minutes if still damp in the slightest for maximum potency)
5 oz. 190-proof Everclear

Grind the weed until fine but not powdered. Place the cannabis and alcohol in a double boiler over *low* heat (use a candy thermometer, if available) and keep the temp between 165°F to 170°F for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Finally, strain through cheese-cloth into a measuring cup for easy pouring, or in a glass jar for storage.

Green Dragon sugar:

1 cup sugar
½ cup Green Dragon

Mix the two into a state of thorough consistency, then spread evenly in a round cake pan. Next, bake at 200°F (or even a little lower) for an hour, stirring every 10 minutes.

Cheeba Dragon Morning Mocha:

¼ cup unsweetened, powdered cocoa
1 cinnamon stick
1 dash of salt
½ cup hot water
½ cup Green Dragon sugar (and save the leftovers!)
4 cups milk
¾ tsp. vanilla extract
4 to 8 shots espresso for single- or double-shot mochas (optional)

Mix the cocoa, salt, cinnamon stick and water together in a pan on medium heat until it boils, then reduce heat to low. Stir in the four cups of milk, followed by the Green Dragon sugar; heat until warm, but *do not* boil. Remove from heat, take out the cinnamon stick, add the vanilla extract and stir. Pour into cups over espresso, stir one more time, and enjoy the rest of your day!

Stones 4 per mocha batch, though remaining spoonfuls of the sugar can be used to sweeten (and enliven) the days at your own discretion.

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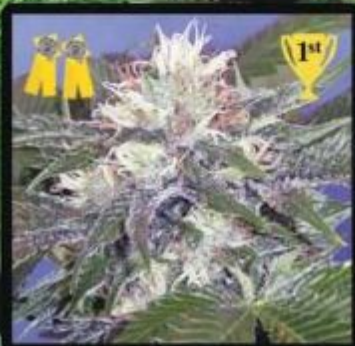
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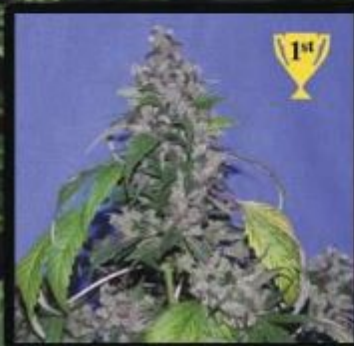
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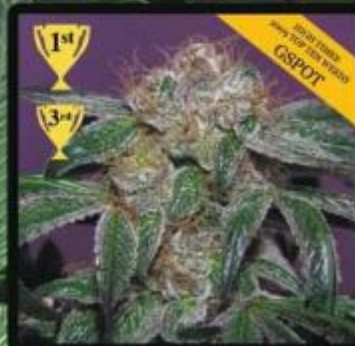
VSCC



420



Lady Liberty



GSPOT



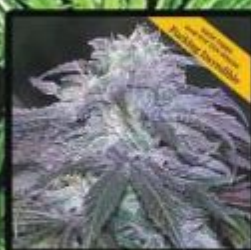
Burmese



Blackberry



Gold



Fucking Incredible



Mother



British Columbian



Kat

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Black Velvet	\$75	
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BlackBurmese	\$90	
British Columbian	\$75	
Bud Lite	\$62	
Burmese	\$85	
Burmaberry	\$85	
Bush Bud	\$62	
Canadian	\$80	

FUCKING INCREDIBLE High Times Top 10 Strains 2008

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Copperhead	\$75
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Eve	\$75
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GSPOT	\$105
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Read about VISC's Induction into The Seed Bank HALL OF FAME in the August 2009 issue of High Times

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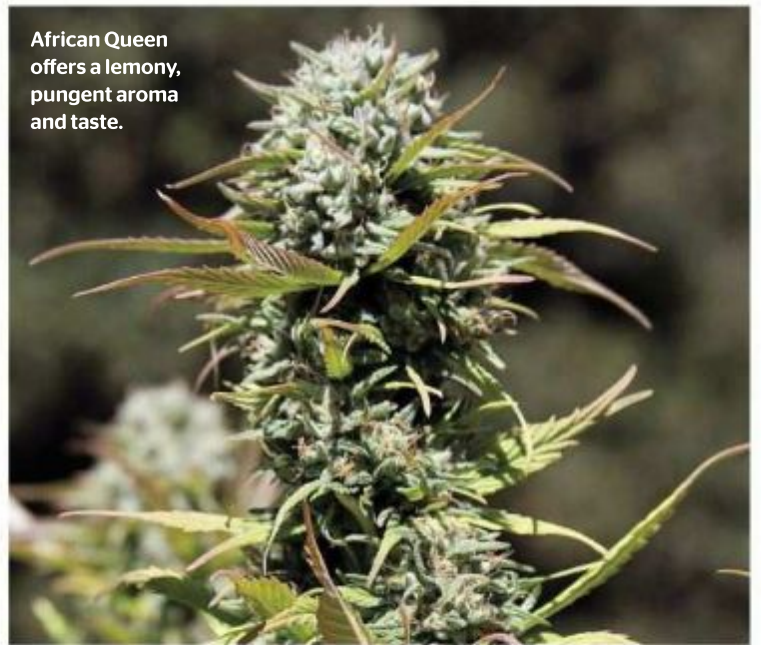
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Medical Strain of the Month

African Queen

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Founded in 1993, a full three years before California voters passed Proposition 215 and legalized medical marijuana in the state, WAMM cultivates 100 percent organic, sun-grown cannabis for its hundreds of members, many of whom suffer from chronic or terminal conditions like cancer, multiple sclerosis, AIDS and Alzheimer's. WAMM has been called the "gold standard" of medical marijuana collectives by a federal judge; the group has also been a leader in the wider medical marijuana movement, going so far as to distribute medicine to its members on the steps of City Hall in the weeks following a 2002 DEA raid that destroyed that year's entire crop.

Up in their peaceful garden, WAMM founders Mike and Valerie Corral work with a dedicated team of volunteers to produce a wide variety of cannabis medicines, including newer hybrids and high-CBD plants. The bulk of their genetics, however, stems

from just two strains: a landrace strain from Afghanistan dubbed *Purple Indica*, and a landrace *sativa* from Malawi called African Queen. WAMM has also developed *indica*- and *sativa*-dominant hybrids of both of these varieties.

Members seeking relief from nausea, depression, inflammation and other conditions best treated with a *sativa* find the African Queen a godsend, especially since purebred *sativas* are nearly impossible to obtain at dispensaries thanks to their longer flowering times and smaller yields. WAMM's gardeners pollinate only those African Queen plants that have thrived in the garden's particular microclimate, which means that over the years they've conditioned them to produce denser buds than typical purebred *sativas*, resulting in heavier harvests, and quicker flowering times.

Still, after just a few puffs on this uplifting, cerebrally stimulating strain, you know it's a real-deal *sativa*—and WAMM's regimen of exclusively organic fertilizers allows the African Queen's lemony taste and pungent aroma to achieve a powerful expression. ✨

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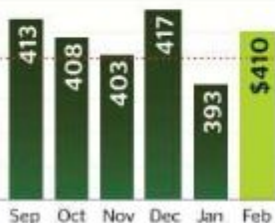
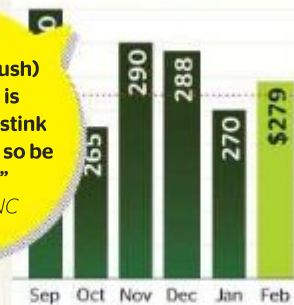
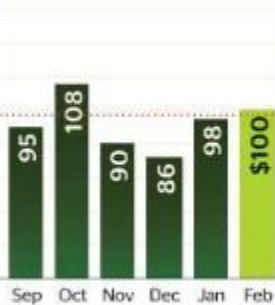
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"Sour-dominant SFV
OG Kush. The aliens
will be coming back
for this one."
Detroit, MI

MARKET ANALYSIS

Prices by the ounce

In January, the US Price, Kind and Mids indices finished below their previous month's averages. Those indices rebounded in February, however, as all finished above their respective marks from January. The US Price Index experienced the most substantial gain, closing the month \$35 above last month's average at \$307 per ounce.

US Price Index
YTD Average: \$325

Kind Index
YTD Average: \$402

Mids Index
YTD Average: \$275

Schwag Index
YTD Average: \$99


(Holy Grail Kush)
"The taste is
heavenly. It'll stink
up your place, so be
cautious!"
Charlotte, NC

TRANS HIGH MARKET QUOTATIONS

STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE
Alabama	Huntsville	Blue Dream	\$425
Alaska	Kodiak Island	Purps	450
Arizona	Phoenix	Purple Kush	420
California	Lemoore	OG Kush	280
		Bubblegum	250
	Sacramento	Blue Dream	220
	San Jose	Tahoe OG	350
Colorado	Denver	Golden Goat	300
	Pueblo	Deadhead OG	250
Delaware	Newark	Headband	370
		Early Girl	370
	Pike Creek	Kandy Kush	390
Florida	Dayton Beach	Jack Herer	400
	Orlando	Sour Diesel	450
	Tampa	The Flav	250
Hawaii	Maui	Chocolope	400
		White Widow	325
	Oahu	Super Lemon Haze	400
		Banana Kush	350
Indiana	Indianapolis	Bubblegum	500
Kansas	Salina	Chocolope	325
Massachusetts	Brockton	Purple Sour Kush	400
			325
Michigan	Detroit	Sour OG Kush	420
		Girl Scout Cookies	450
	Traverse City	White Diesel	500
		Alien Kush	520
Minnesota	Winona	Lavender	400
Mississippi	Macon	Afghan Kush	300
New Jersey	Jersey City	Guava Chem	450
New York	New York	Strawberry Cough	420
	Rochester	Northern Lights	300
North Carolina	Charlotte	Holy Grail Kush	480
Oregon	Portland	Cheese	200
Pennsylvania	Greenville	Jillybean	375
		Skunk #1	300
South Carolina	Charleston	White Rhino	300
Tennessee	Memphis	Sour Haze	350
		White Widow	400
		Outdoor	150
Washington	Seattle	Sour Diesel	240
		Purple Haze	250
Wisconsin	Madison	Bubble Kush x Diesel	300
		Afgooey	330
		Purps	320
INTERNATIONAL			
Canada	Calgary	Bubba Kush	C\$150
		Cheese	160

We want to know what you're smoking! Submit your strain information, location and price by the ounce to thmq@hightimes.com or on Twitter using #THMQ.

(Jillybean)
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Score Some Marijuana Base Nutrients That Cost Less... But Do More

by Carl West

In the years I've been growing high-grade marijuana in aeroponics, Pro-Mix, deep water culture, ebb and flow, and drip-irrigated Grodan rockwool, I've spent stacks of cash on 2-Part and 3-Part hydroponics base nutrients...but haven't always gotten my money's worth.

I found out the hard way--if you're having trouble keeping pH in the target range, your plants show signs of nutrient deficiency or overload, or you see particles settling at the bottom of your nutrients reservoir, it could be defective base nutrients.

And as nutrients costs go up, or you've been using the same base nutrients for a while, you may be wondering if anyone is making modernized nutrients that feed your plants more efficiently and cost you less money.

Marijuana growers have been waiting for better nutrients ever since indoor marijuana growing got popular in the 1970's because the first hydroponics nutrients companies didn't do any marijuana-growing fertilizer research.

They just copied formulas for generic

water-soluble fertilizers—the kind grandma feeds to her houseplants.

They sold these knock-offs as "hydroponics nutrients" that cost us much, much more than it cost to make them.

Old school nutrients sometimes provide enough nutrition to keep marijuana plants alive so you have some homegrown buds to smoke, but in the late 1990's, hydroponics companies and hydroponics scientists started creating a new and more effective generation of nutrients.

They recognized that marijuana

is the only plant that produces THC and other cannabinoids, so they set out to make nutrients that push marijuana's metabolism, growth patterns, and genetics to give you more THC and more harvest weight.

That's why growers eagerly embraced marijuana-specific fertilizers like Canna's Aqua Vega and Aqua Flores, or Jungle Juice 2-Part and 3-Part bases, made by Advanced Nutrients.

Marijuana growers are trending away from traditional 2-Part and 3-Part base nutrients such as General Hydroponics' Flora, especially after they learn that newer formulas perform as well as or better than Flora but cost a lot less.

I've long relied on General Hydroponics fertilizers and was very skeptical about Jungle Juice.

I looked at the labels for General Hydroponics Flora 3-Part base nutrients and Advanced Nutrients 3-Part Jungle Juice™, and was surprised to see that their "guaranteed analysis" of ingredients and ratios are the same.

When you look at the pricing, however, you see Jungle Juice is nearly 50% cheaper than General Hydroponics Flora or the comparable Canna base nutrients.

I wondered why would a fertilizer company spend lots of money researching and making a new generation of nutrients that are "as good or better" than popular, established nutrients, but sell them at a more affordable price.

I put that question to Michael Straumietis, one of the head honchos at Advanced Nutrients.

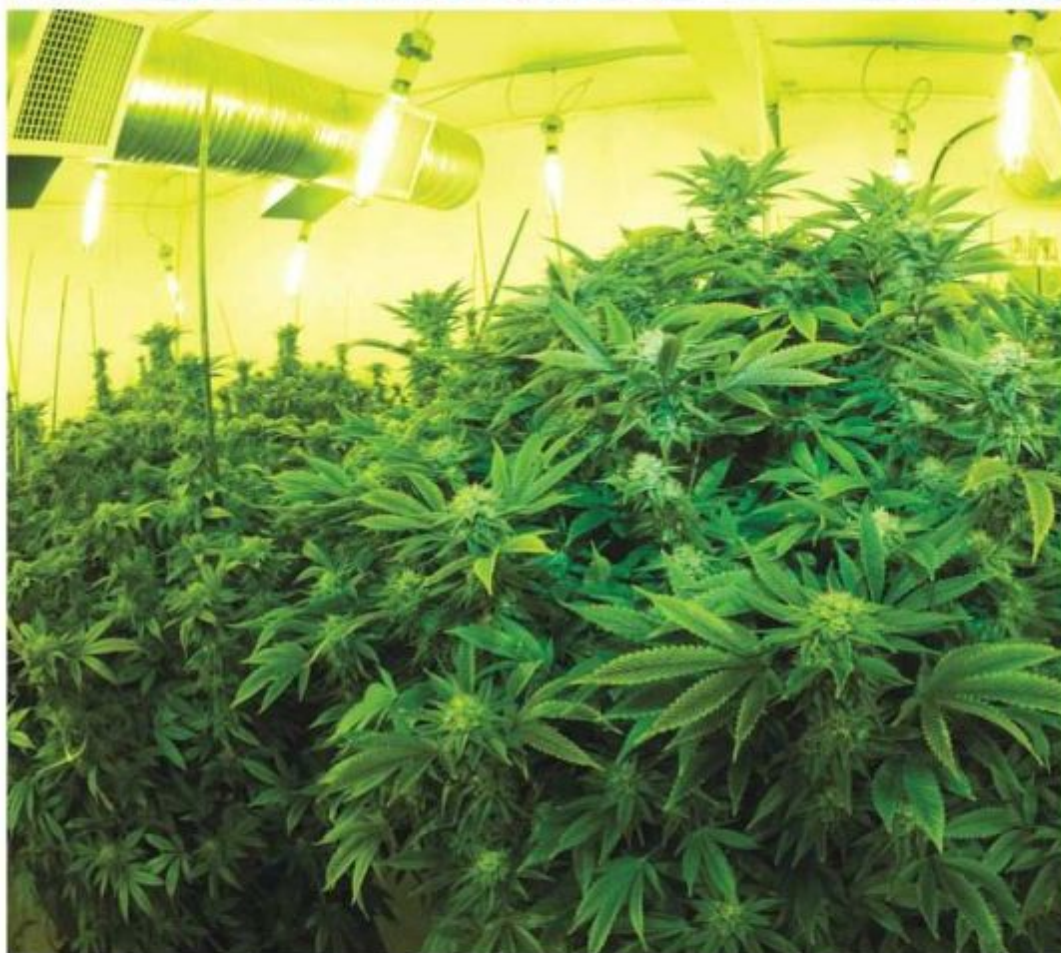
He said Jungle Juice's grower-friendly pricing is aimed at making it more affordable for us to grow our own stash, and "to show growers what fair pricing looks like."

"Most companies put a ridiculously high mark-up on their nutrients," Straumietis explains. "Advanced Nutrients wants growers to have an easier time getting quality nutrients at a reasonable price. Jungle Juice is the most affordable fertilizer that works great for your plants. We still make a fair profit, and the grower gets a fair price."

Straumietis notes that the 2-Part version of Jungle Juice has yield-boosting natural extracts from kelp and non-GMO land-plant sources that the more-expensive nutrients don't have.

And my grower friends who test Jungle Juice against Flora tell me Jungle Juice is slightly more pH stable and produces a 5-10% edge in harvest size.

Otherwise, the two products perform the same.



As a full-time grower for a thriving Colorado medical marijuana dispensary, I finally make enough money to afford top-shelf hydroponic nutrients and supplies. Price is no longer my main concern when I shop for fertilizers and grow equipment.

But many marijuana growers only

require acceptable crop performance, and more-affordable fertilizers, so they're glad to finally have access to modern base nutrients that save you money and feed complete nutrition to your marijuana plants. ■

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2013

Hydro Report

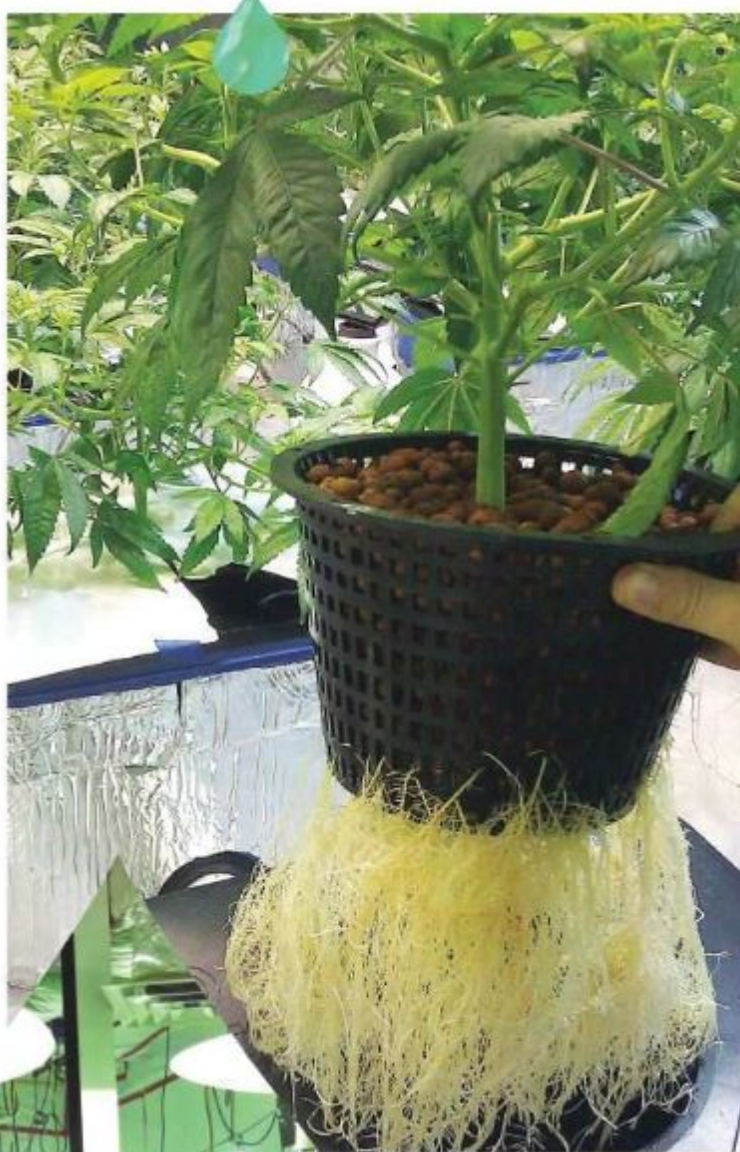
Growing marijuana hydroponically is the key to quick, huge harvests when it's properly performed. Here's the rundown on how and why to grow without soil for bigger, better buds.

By Erik Blksa and Danny Danko

Soilless Growing vs. Hydroponics

Welcome to the 2013 *High Times* Hydro Report. Let's start by defining "hydro"—a term that gets thrown around a lot by growers, though it may mean different things to different people. Strictly speaking, "hydroponics" means growing plants without using soil as the medium. That covers a lot of different setups, from using a soilless medium such as rockwool to hold the roots in place to actually having the roots suspended in air with only an oxygen-rich nutrient mist to feed them.

This creates a wide variety of growing possibilities. Hence the popularity of soilless gardens—those gardens that take advantage of purely hydroponic principles while tempering them with the flexibility and forgiveness we more commonly associate with soil gardens. The mediums in such gardens include coco coir, peat mixes, rockwool and more. Basically, although a growing medium is used, it's relatively "inert" or low in naturally occurring bioactivity. With this kind of hydro growing, we use soilless mediums to create the perfect sponge for holding



From top: White roots are a sign of healthy hydro plants; container size is directly related to plant size.



when all the factors are properly in place. Although hydro growing is less forgiving than soil, it's more rewarding when done right. The grower must ensure that light, nutrient solution, carbon dioxide and oxygen are present in the proper amounts at all times or else the system breaks down quickly, resulting in slowed growth and even death for your plants. However, growers with more of a technical background and less "green thumb" farming experience love hydroponics for the fact that it's easy to monitor and results in plants can practically be seen exploding with growth before your very eyes.

There is also less risk of pests when growing hydroponically. Many pests and pathogens are brought into a growroom via the soil, which also provides a perfect place for these pests to hide and breed. Hydroponic growers can still experience infestations, of course, but they are less likely and easier to spot in a clean soilless situation.

Types of Hydroponic Systems

Ebb-and-Flow (or Flood-and-Drain): In this type of system, plants in trays or on tables are periodically fed nutrient solution from a reservoir beneath the garden. The solution then empties back into the reservoir for future feedings. Popular mediums for holding the roots in these systems include expanded clay pellets (grow rocks) and rockwool cubes or slabs.

oxygen, water and nutrients to produce serious yields of frosty buds.

Why Go Hydro?

Plants grown hydroponically exhibit explosive growth rates



Grow rocks are a popular medium for hydro growers.

From top: A vertical hydro tube feeder system maximizes use of space; tray systems are watered periodically from reservoirs.



Nutrient Film Technique (NFT):

When using an NFT system, a constant shallow “river” of nutrient solution flows through tubes, feeding the roots as they dangle down from net pots. Because there’s a constant supply of water touching the roots, it’s very important to ensure that enough oxygen is present in the nutrient-fortified water.

Drip Irrigation: Drip irrigation employs tubing that feeds each plant individually by slowly but almost constantly releasing droplets of nutrient

solution through drip emitters placed at the base of each plant. A pump on a timer periodically sends liquid plant food through a manifold that then uses spaghetti tubes to deliver the nutrient solution.

Deep Water Culture (DWC):

DWC systems incorporate individual buckets for each plant, sometimes regulated by a main feeder bucket and sometimes as standalone containers. The roots dangle down into oxygenated nutrient solution and grow extremely quickly as a result,



7 New & Innovative Hydro Products

Oxygen Pot Systems

6-pot systems start at \$523.99

oxygenpotsystems.com

We chose these buckets for the cover of this hydro issue because they take DWC to the next level with optimum oxygenation and perfect drainage.

Vermicrop Gold Label HydroCorn

\$32.95

discount-hydro.com

By far the highest-quality grow rocks we’ve seen, the HydroCorns can be used in harvest after harvest, so long as they’re properly cleaned.

Supercloner 50-Plant Hydroponic Grow System

\$149.95

supercloset.com

Rapid cloning is essential for a productive hydroponic garden, and these units induce roots within a week and take up only 28" x 6" of space. Faster rooting means stronger plants in less time.

The Stacker

\$3,450

cabinetgrow.com

This two-chambered, LED-lit grow box provides the best in stealth combined with energy efficiency and the ability to harvest perpetually. A premium unit for hydro growers with a little extra cash to spend.

(Continued on page 50)

BUDDHA

SEEDS

4G

08:20 am

WHITE DWARF

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NUEVA

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100% Purple.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 65 days.

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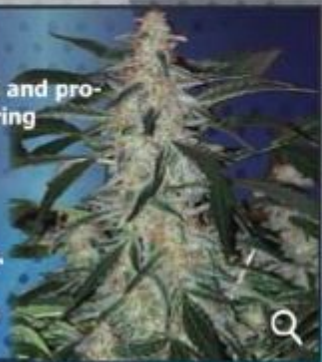
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A perfect balance between indica and sativa.

No autoflowering.

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Harvest in 57 days.

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35€



PULSAR

Supersative and Super-productive.

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Flowering in 75 days.

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RED DWARF

Compact and powerful.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 60 days.

5 Feminized Seeds
30€



ASSORTED AUTO

The best auto-flowering mix.

100% Auto.

10 Feminized Seeds 35€



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supporting monster plants up above when all of the other factors are at optimum levels.

Aeroponics: Aeroponic growers take the hydro concept to the extreme by using misters to spray roots as they're suspended in mid-air. This method of feeding promotes rapid root and plant growth, but it's also prone to disaster if the misters clog or pumps fail. Consider using aeroponic techniques only once you've mastered the other aspects of soilless horticulture.

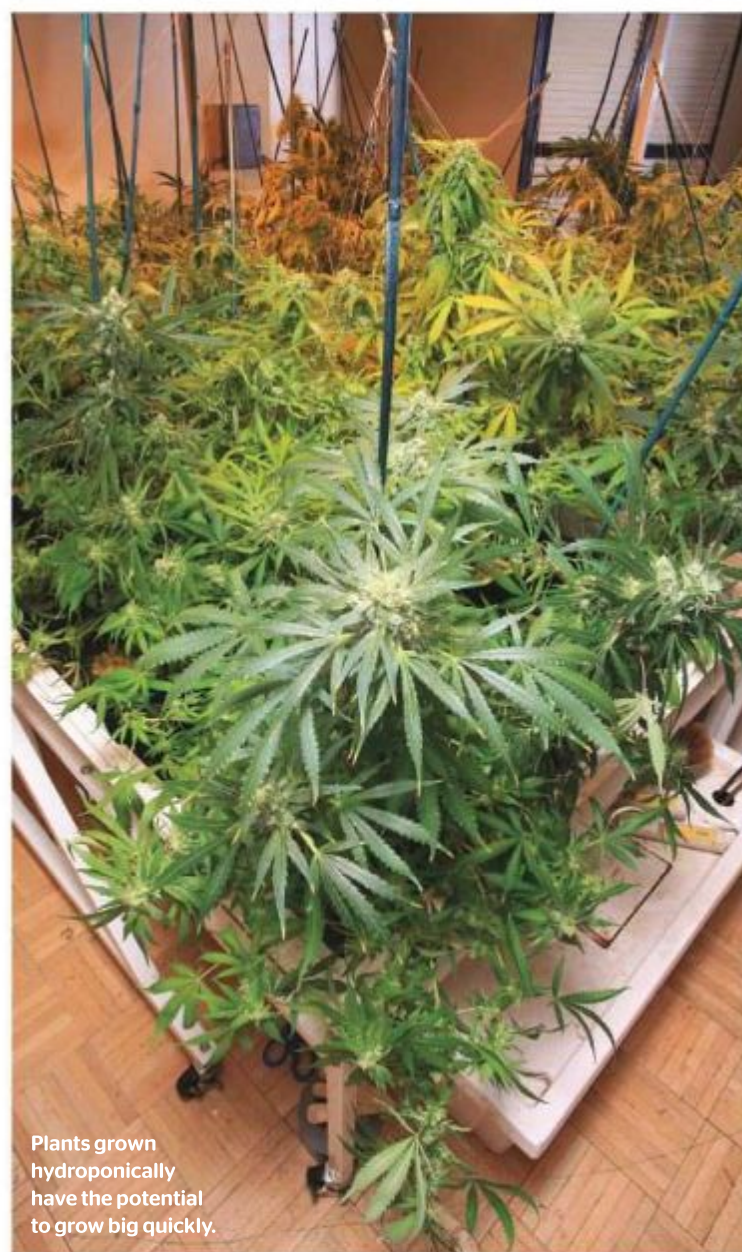
Hydro Checklist Essential Items for the Hydroponic Gardener

- ✓ pH meter plus pH up and pH down
- ✓ ppm meter
- ✓ Nutrients for vegetative and flowering growth
- ✓ Air pump and air stones for reservoir
- ✓ Water pump for reservoir
- ✓ Thermometer for reservoir
- ✓ Chiller and heater for reservoir

Hydroponic Reservoir Maintenance

Below most hydroponic systems sits the reservoir, where the nutrient solution is stored for watering purposes. The solution must be drained and replaced with fresh water and nutrients every two weeks minimum. Also, never allow light to reach your reservoir, as water plus light equals algae and molds (so always use an opaque lid).

Ideally, the pH level of



Plants grown hydroponically have the potential to grow big quickly.

the solution must be kept between 5.5 and 6.2 at all times. Adding nutrients and supplements can change the pH level drastically, and it can also change over time as the solution sits. The PPM level of the nutrient solution—a measure of

its electrical conductivity (EC) or total dissolved solids (TDS)—is generally best between 800 and 1,400 ppm, depending on the strain and stage of plant growth. The PPM can also change as the water evaporates or is taken in by the plants.

Water temperature must not exceed 80°F or drop below 65°F or else the plants will quickly stop growing and possibly die. Regulating it is achieved with a simple aquarium heater to raise the temps and a more complicated (and expensive) chiller system to lower them. Maintaining the proper temperature is absolutely essential to success in hydroponic applications, since veering outside the permitted range has claimed many a hydro grower's garden.

As the days go by, the level of nutrient solution in your reservoir will inevitably go down. Replenish it with fresh, mild nutrient solution and then check the pH and PPM immediately. Never allow the solution level to go below half the size of your reservoir container. This means you could end up adding water or nutrient solution almost every day when growth is at its highest rate.

Last but not least, oxygenation is crucial. A simple air pump and air stone in the bottom of the reservoir will help—but it's nearly impossible to over-oxygenate a solution, so the more the merrier, since a nutrient solution that bubbles all over the place (as opposed to just in one little area of the tub) is far more effective in delivering essential oxygen to the roots. The equipment you'll need to achieve this is cheap and readily available at any aquarium supply shop.

7 New & Innovative Hydro Products

(Continued from page 48)



Hydro-Logic Stealth 200 Reverse-Osmosis System

\$259.99
hydrowholesale.com
Starting with pure water instead of tap increases your chances of success exponentially. That's why a good reverse-osmosis (RO) filter is ideal, and this one is not only affordable, but it purifies up to 200 gallons per day.

Vertex Vertical Garden

Starting at \$899
vertexhydroponics.com
One of the best ways to increase yield per square foot is to go vertical, and these fully adjustable 72-plant systems are versatile and easy to set up and take down. (Use coupon code HIGHTIMES for a free grow tent and 50% off shipping.)

HydroRush Water Treatment Additive

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waytogrow.net
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Using a Soiless Mix

With a high-quality peat- or coco-based soil-less mix, just about anybody can grow a good yield of equally high-quality cannabis without a whole lot of hassle (and while keeping the costs of production lower). All you have to do is keep in mind some of the important principles involved, as well as the best way to take advantage of them and achieve the results you crave.

Sourcing Your Medium

There are several factors to consider when choosing the soilless medium that best suits your particular growing situation. Luckily, there are usually plenty of options, especially at a well-stocked hydroponic supply store—but even the big-box stores or major garden centers may have what you need.

Fortified vs. Unfortified: The less fortified or pre-charged the medium is with nutrients or soil conditioners, the more “hydroponic” it is. That’s why you should avoid heavily pre-fertilized mediums for maximum control over your plants’ nutrition. If you’re the plant-and-run type, your hydro shop may have some good “just add water” mediums that have all the necessary nutrients to feed your plants for a month or two. However, heavily fortified mediums are better suited to soil growing than they are to hydro. You can use either or both hydroponic and organic nutrients with good success in most soil-less mediums.

Drainage: Faster-draining mediums provide more air to the roots, but they also mean you need to water more frequently. Some experienced growers prefer faster-draining mediums because they can “push” their plants forward a bit with more frequent and precise crop feedings.

Source of Parent Material: Organic materials such as peat that have been decomposed for thousands of years are typically more stable than, for example, younger mediums like coco that may be less than a year old. As such, the latter may still be undergoing chemical decomposition and other changes, which can jerk the nutrient and pH levels all across the board. If you opt for a coco-based medium (which is more enviro-friendly), make sure that it comes highly recommended and that you understand some of the differences when it comes to feeding crops in coco.

Straight or All Mixed Up?

Most professional mixes are good to grow straight out of the bag, but others can require some fortification for nutrients or buffering for pH. Adding a cup or so of dolomite lime to commercial peat mixes is a common practice for providing long-term buffering, especially with stronger crop feedings.

In most low- or no-fertilizer pre-charge mixes, adding high-quality earthworm castings can improve growth rates, crop health and yields when mixed with some extra perlite or pumice (for better drainage) into the commercial peat- or coco-based mix. Some growers love the buds they get when they mix coco and commercial peat in a ratio of 1:4 (the coco helps make the medium more “spongy”).

To Bed or Bucket?

What to put the soilless mix in? The rule here is that, where space allows, deeper is better. When cannabis plants don’t sense space limitations in their root environment, they show their appreciation by producing bigger root systems and more and larger buds. This makes a good case for beds or deep planters.

However, when space is tight, containers help keep plants within the size you can allot to them. Cold, damp roots don’t fare well in either soil or hydro, so a sheet or even Styrofoam peanuts can help keep roots from direct contact with cold floors and even assist drainage. The rule of thumb is to allow for at least 1 gallon of container size for every month of growth the plant will have before harvest. That’s the recommended minimum, but potting up to bigger and bigger pots is the preferred way to go, or else directly into raised beds or planter boxes.

Here’s another tip: Good drainage is crucial. You’ll want to apply more water or nutrient solution than you need just to wet the soilless medium. You’ll want to see some runoff, which helps to prevent fertilizers from building up to toxic levels over time, damaging yields and quality.

Splash Down

The initial wetting after transplanting your clones or seedlings is important. Here you want to ensure a “good stick” between the root-ball and its new environment. Getting it right will result in a flawless transition and an explosion of healthy growth; too much water and plants will have a slow start. Worse yet, if there isn’t good >

Soiless mixes offer the best of both worlds.

Organic or Synthetic Nutrients

Hydroponic growers seeking to use organic nutrients tend to run into several problems. Because the nutrient solution typically sits in the reservoir for two weeks at a time, organic nutrients tend to break down and start stinking or else assist in developing slime or molds. Plus organic nutrients are particularly tough to use with individual drip systems, as they tend to clog the drippers or sprayers.

Most synthetic nutrients will stay fairly stable for the two-week period, and they also flow nicely through tubes due to their small molecule sizes. They tend to dissolve in water better and have the added benefit of not inviting pests in the way that some naturally formulated nutrients can. We recommend going the synthetic route for most hydroponic applications.

	SOIL	SOILLESS	HYDRO
	Reusable	Yes	Yes, but you may not require medium at all
	Yes, but tricky		
Level of expertise	Easier	More forgiving	Less forgiving
Growth rates	Slower	Reasonable	Very rapid
Yield expectations	Moderate to medium	High	High—if done correctly
Chance of problems	Fewest	Average	Potentially high
Importance of water quality	Fair	Important	Very important
Suitability for organic methods	Very high	Moderate	Typically not

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Using a Soiless Mix

(Continued)

contact with the roots to the new medium (i.e., not enough water), plants may dry up and suffer. A mild nutrient feeding with B-vitamins and a root inoculant—for example, one containing mycorrhizae—is a great way to start.

Humic and fulvic acid help to improve the natural properties of any growing medium, especially soilless mixes. If they're not already supplied by your favorite nutrient additives, it's recommended that you include them. Molasses can also help to stimulate strong microbiology, but it's easily over-applied and may contribute to root rot quickly in warm, wet growing conditions.

Management and Maintenance

For the best results, view the life of your growing medium as a marathon rather than a sprint. If you apply all of your nutrients at the front end, your plants will still be choking or starving by the time they approach the finish line.

Salt buildup and overfeeding need to be avoided, but this takes some consideration and care as to how and when to apply your nutrients. If you garden without carbon dioxide (CO₂), it would be rare to feed your plants nutrients past 1,400 ppm (2.0) EC during the bloom phase, and above

1,000 ppm (1.4 EC) in the vegetative-growth phase.

Applying your fertilizer at quarter rather than full strength every third feeding or so to the point of runoff can help keep fertilizer residues from building up in the medium. If you grow big plants and enrich the environment with CO₂, your crop will usually need more water as well as nutrients to keep up with higher metabolic activity that results.

Hand-watering is always the preferred method, but soilless gardens can easily be automated with a reservoir, pumps, timer and delivery lines. Note that fertilizer labels usually give the recommended doses at the higher end; start with half the recommended strength and work your way up from there if you don't have electronic measuring equipment.

Save Your Medium and Keep Your Yields

Flushing with plain water or a very mild nutrient solution for the final two weeks before you anticipate harvest not only helps to improve the quality of your bud; it also allows you to successfully reuse your growing medium. This saves on lugging copious amounts of medium in and out of your grow facility, and it may even promote bigger and healthier plants as a beneficial microbiology

develops over time. Using digestive enzymes and humates is a great way to break down old roots and buffer fertilizer residues. Adding some more perlite, earthworm castings and dolomite lime is another worthwhile step in getting your medium ready for reuse.

Proven Growing Tips for Soiless Gardens

Some strains like it if you let the medium dry out a bit between waterings, while others don't. Experiment a little to achieve the best results over time.

- If your medium becomes too acidic, one cup of hydrated lime in a full 55-gallon drum of water will raise the pH of the peat mix it's watered into by approximately 1.0.
- Don't allow the roots to rest in standing water for prolonged periods of time; root rot may occur.
- All of that growing medium can hold a lot of water. Make sure the weight is well supported if you're using benches, and be prepared to regulate humidity levels as the water evaporates.
- Keeping the top of the growing medium moist for prolonged periods will attract fungus, gnats and molds, so let the surface dry out between waterings.



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Golden temple kush.....
Sour diesel
Double skunk x skunk.....
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Pineapple.....
Island sweet skunk x skunk.....
Dn x skunk.....
G13 : greenhouse 13 x skunk..... 10 seeds/\$70
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Moose jaw madness x skunk.....
Double skunk harmony x skunk..... 10 seeds/\$80
Ohjaze x skunk.....
Sour diesel x skunk..... 10 seeds/\$90
Mowie gold x skunk.....
Thai x skunk.....
Tuna kush..... 10 seeds/\$100
zen hash plant.....
Afpac.....
Pink kush.....
Blackwillie (Vietnam black x Willie Nelson)..... 10 seeds/\$125
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The Cali-Cannon

For when the standard bomber just doesn't pack enough of a wallop.

*Story & photos
by Lochfoot*



There are times when simply packing a bowl or rolling your average doob doesn't pay proper tribute to the incredible variety in today's rapidly growing specialty green market. New strains are being made available at a dizzying rate by technically advanced weed wizards as well as by killer little ol' mom-and-pop setups across the land. These complex Nebulas, potent Herers and ever-popular Kush strains deserve the connoisseur's touch when it comes to the ultimate in THC enjoyment. This month, we're paying tribute to a Romulan strain cultivated in California's own Sonoma Valley, better known for its wine, women and ... bong. We've decided that the water pipe is hardly the tool of choice for tasty varietals such as the Romulan. This strain requires something more—a little number my friends like to call the Cali-Cannon.

You'll need the better part of an eighth to build this mother, and trying to smoke it down with less than three heads is suicidal. Some jumbo-size papers will also be required (we used the clear variety here for full visual effect). And if you don't have Andre the Giant-sized hands, you will need either a dollar bill or, in our case, a well-used playing card from an old deck to keep things even. Finally, while the Cali-Cannon is good to the last puff, it's also a good idea to use a crutch, which you can make from another card (believe me, the deck you've sacrificed will forgive you).

The master recipe also calls for at least 2 grams of the finest hash you can get your sticky little hands on—and remember not to insult the strain with a substandard chunk of hardened goo from some novice basement producer.



Accompanying the fine hash will be its viscous counterpart, known to many as honey oil—just enough to coat the last inch of the cannon. Last but not least, you'll need a pinch of pure kief to roll onto the honey-oil end and help blast you off into space.

Now that you've got the ingredients together, start off by breaking down your herb into joint-rolling consistency, remembering to remove any stems that might tear a hole in the mother-ship. Green grinders such as the Mendo Mulcher are great for keeping the resin where it's supposed to be.

Next, warm up the hash a little by gently squishing it between your palms until it has the consistency of Play-Doh. The idea here is to roll it into a thin shaft that will run the length of your Cali-Cannon.

Now it's time to roll. Place your ground greenery inside the paper on top of the rolling card. Next, lay the hash shaft down the center of your pile with the crutch on one end and then roll away. Take your time and remember: It requires some practice to master this particular technique. Keep some extra papers on hand to repair any minor holes or splits along the way.

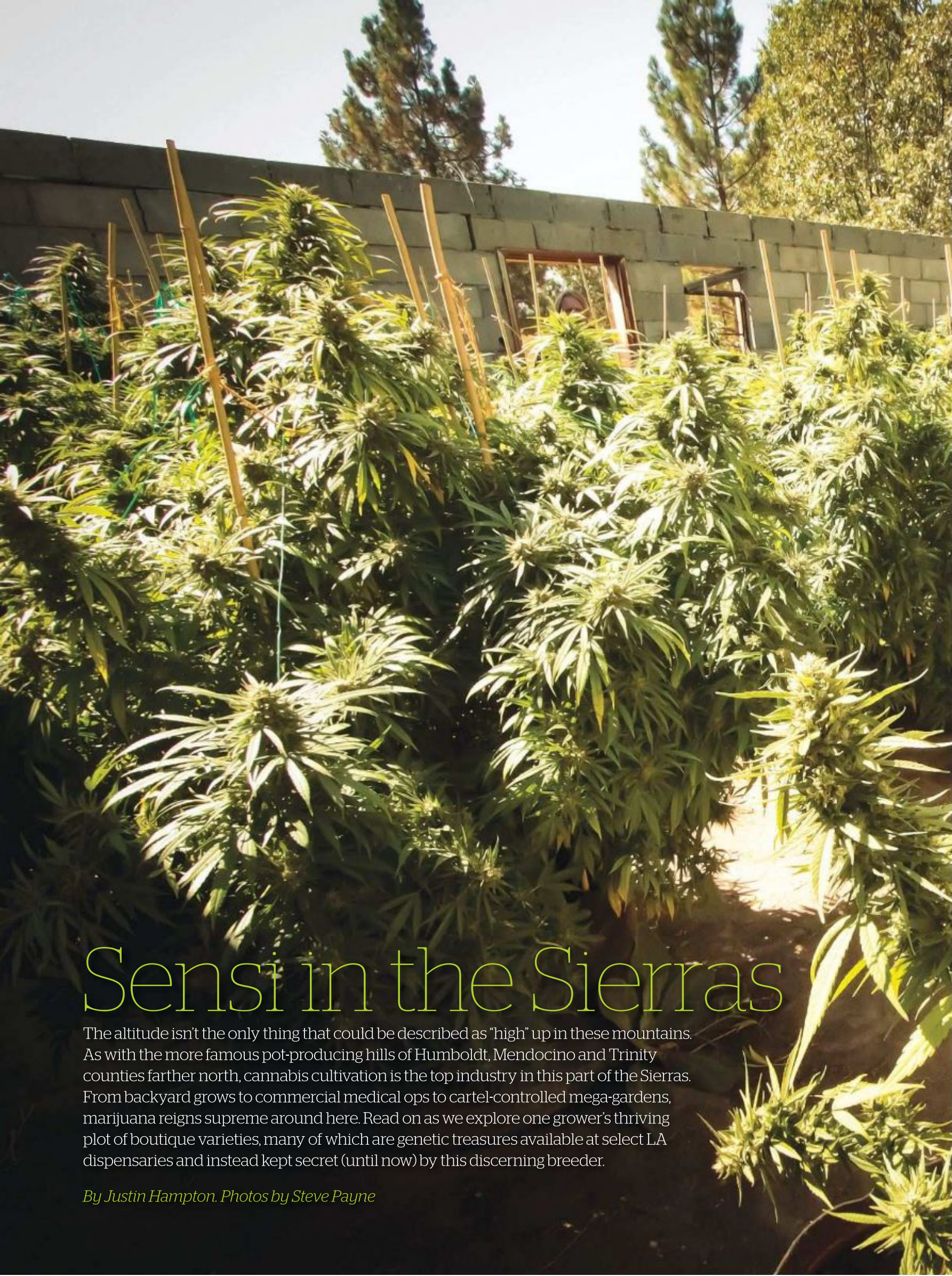
Once your joint is rolled, it's time to apply the honey oil to the end of the barrel. Here, we gooped the oil onto a butter knife and gently rolled the bomber 360 degrees for an even coat.

Finally, we placed our kief onto the playing card that we fashioned into a crutch and dredged the end of our Cali-Cannon through the mind-numbing powder as the finishing touch.

Now it's go time ... put on your tunes of choice, fire this sucka up and initiate liftoff.

And remember to say hello to the Romulans. ✨





Sensi in the Sierras

The altitude isn't the only thing that could be described as "high" up in these mountains. As with the more famous pot-producing hills of Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties farther north, cannabis cultivation is the top industry in this part of the Sierras. From backyard grows to commercial medical ops to cartel-controlled mega-gardens, marijuana reigns supreme around here. Read on as we explore one grower's thriving plot of boutique varieties, many of which are genetic treasures available at select LA dispensaries and instead kept secret (until now) by this discerning breeder.

By Justin Hampton. Photos by Steve Payne



Holding down the
fort: Crockett's
Tropicali (Afghani
x Monterey Haze)
harvest for 2012.



Maybe all the wolves will lose my scent And I can stay here for a while.—Unknown Mortal Orchestra, “Little Blu House”

Harvest Moon

Celestial light reflects off the moon’s face onto the canyon, so bright that you may as well shut off your headlights and smartphone and allow the stars to guide your way. Reception this far above sea level is a tricky proposition anyway, and the roads here are a barren and lonely expanse that reflects the sky’s hazy blue illumination for miles on end. A fresh round of the Central Valley’s periodic bouts of fecundity has commenced, and it sounds like everything in the forests is hissing with delight. This year, I’ve been invited to the party.

My host is Crockett, a third-generation pot farmer who has collected and archived a formidable array of super-potent cannabis strains, some of them deriving from vintage ’70s Haze strains, others procured over a decades-long inquiry into the cannabis plant’s many flavors and moods. From there, Crockett and a close-knit team of growers have assiduously crossed the strains they’ve accumulated to develop a collection of connoisseur phenotypes utterly unique to the region’s Mediterranean climate and mountainous terrain. Many of the strains he grows—in particular the Los Angeles Medical Cannabis Cup-nominated

Private Reserve and a brand-new taste treat he calls the Tanj—are of his own genetic invention, highly prized by patients at LA’s higher-end dispensaries and available nowhere else in the world. He’s featured prominently in Mark Haskell Smith’s drug-tourist odyssey *Heart of Dankness: Underground Botanists, Outlaw Farmers and the Race for the Cannabis Cup* (Broadway Books), and his crops epitomize the specimens of “dank” bud that Smith comes to admire.

Smith describes Crockett in the book as a sort of gentle giant who could turn menacing if provoked, but once I finally meet him, I realize that it would take a lot to provoke him. Nowadays, thanks to the medical boom, local growers like him can cultivate just under 100 plants legally (at least as far as the state is concerned), so even the Mexican cartels have moved down from their illegal park grows to set up shop. Sure, there’s Operation Mercury, the joint federal/local anti-grow-op task force that still racks up weekly mentions in the local papers, but those guys have come and gone in this area, so Crockett’s harvest is safe for now. And thanks to a good, dry extended summer in the region, Crockett’s plants, he assures me, are looking robust. I’ll see for myself tomorrow.

Diamonds in the Rough

Crockett picks me up early the next day and drives me to the first grow site. It’s located in the mountains at a 5,000-foot elevation. The US Forestry Service website gushes over the rare diversity of evergreens in the lower montane, which testifies to the land’s ability to support all sorts of life. Of course, the Forestry Service wasn’t referring to Armenian campers doing Journey karaoke or seven-foot-tall cannabis plants, but both have been sighted in and around the property we’re heading to. Once we reach the house—a dun-red cabin with a wooden deck out front and a shooting target perched on a stump 50 feet away—we can see the hoses leading down the declivity toward a small shed. Crockett shows us the way.

The first rarity he introduces us to is the Monterey Haze a.k.a. “The Haze” or “Queen Bee.” Crockett traces this plant’s lineage all the way back to the original Haze seeds that eventually grew the Amsterdam market. This particular plant is still flowering, and Crockett wonders aloud whether they may need to enclose it in a greenhouse, slow as it is. But this particular Haze pheno, along with the Cali Haze growing close by, is literally

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the mother to many of Crockett's unique crossbreeds. In addition to the squat, emerald-green vintage Afghani to one side and a truly old-school Skunk from the '80s growing nearby, these Hazes form the basis for the genetic treasure hunts that Crockett will often set off upon, wherein he'll grow small amounts of plants in search of a "diamond in the rough," as he calls it. From there, he'll log its crystal content, flowering time, bud density and other characteristics,

strain at a time in large grow spaces, he often stashes a unique outlier, such as a stubby Thai x Santa Marta Gold with massive buds, in the corner. "If you want to talk about F1 crosses with heirloom varieties, this is it right here," he gushes.

The next day, Crockett takes me to his own house further down the valley at a 1,000-foot elevation. In his outdoor garden, he is growing his current pride and joy, the citrus-scented Tanj. He urges me to rub the buds and then sniff my fingers.

between the *indica* and *sativa* highs. Crockett calls it "the most resin-producing, hash-producing plant I've ever seen."

And there's more. Stashed away in another room are 22 mother plants set aside for cloning and breeding purposes. In this particular room, he's got Ghost OG, Girl Scout Cookies, LA Confidential Shrom (a Santa Marta Gold x Romulan), Tanj and Kosher Kush—but if you throw in the holdings of his inner circle, Crockett has access to over 100 different strains. And despite numerous offers, Crockett stresses that his phenos ain't for sale. "We want to be the only people that have these," he says.

Wrong Side of the Fence

Right now we're driving in Crockett's pick-up truck, scouting the area for the Central Valley's most painfully obvious grow ops. Since the medical boom, growers from all over the country—let's call them "turkey-baggers"—have moved into the area to set up super-gardens that piss off the local community and infuriate law enforcement. These are the pests that Operation Mercury (named after the Roman messenger god) was meant to send a warning to. Apparently that message didn't get through, since even the grade-schoolers can see the cannabis plants from their school buses as they're being dropped off. Hell, they might even be tending their own gardens before homework, since these days, thanks to the horrible economy, *everybody* grows.

Most of the gardens visible from the car are huge, towering entities, but they're not the turkey-baggers', and they're definitely not the cartels', who opt for a far more austere aesthetic. In keeping with the quasi-Third World provenance of their operations, the cartel growers will wall off multi-acre parcels of land with anything they can get their hands on—corrugated tin, abandoned plywood, cloth—then spray-paint it a forbidding black color. These make-shift walls are erected right against the property line of their neighbors; this way, the Americans on the other side can get a taste of what it's like to live near a big, vicious fence with tons of armed, hostile xenophobes protecting it.

Crockett points to some white dots scattered along the mountains in the background. "They've got lookout trailers all over the back of the mountains," he says.

I ask the obvious question: "If it's so obvious where the cartels are, then why are they still in business after Operation Mercury?"



Selected Private Reserve/Cali Haze plants soak in the sun.

then mate it with other plants to see what develops. Not all of these experiments pan out: Inside the cabin is one so-so result destined for the hash/dabs pile once it's trimmed. But this garden is filled with many testaments to his overall effectiveness.

"Nowadays, for me, what's important is taste and smell, even over potency," Crockett confesses as he shows me some of the other unique crosses on this territory. There are two varieties of Blueberry, one crossed with the Afghani and the other with the OG Skunk, and there's also a Purple Wreck x Cannalope Haze, a crazy quilt of Granddaddy Purple, Trainwreck and Cannalope Haze from DNA Genetics that Crockett is testing for the outdoors. A roofless cinderblock enclosure houses a few dozen Tropicali plants (Cali Haze x Monterey Haze), and outside the enclosure, Crockett is breeding an experimental Tropicali x Afghani F1. While Crockett prefers to harvest one

"Smells like oranges," he says with understated pride. This particular variety is a perfect example of Crockett's "diamond in the rough" strategy. Initially growing out 200 Orange Velvet seeds from the Pacific Northwest, he selected 50 females and crossbred them with Candy Jack, winnowing the offspring down to five; then, after two years of narrowing them down even further, his crew came up with a plant that yields three to five pounds. Crockett has big plans for this one: He'll start growing an indoor batch for his next harvest and also intends to enter a wax in next year's *High Times* Medical Cannabis Cup in LA, alongside a Blackberry and an as-yet-unnamed Purple OG strain.

In the meantime, Crockett's indoor grow is occupied by Private Reserve. Essentially a mix between a seven-year Ghost OG strain and a Skunk Haze at least two generations its senior, Private Reserve hits that sweet spot located

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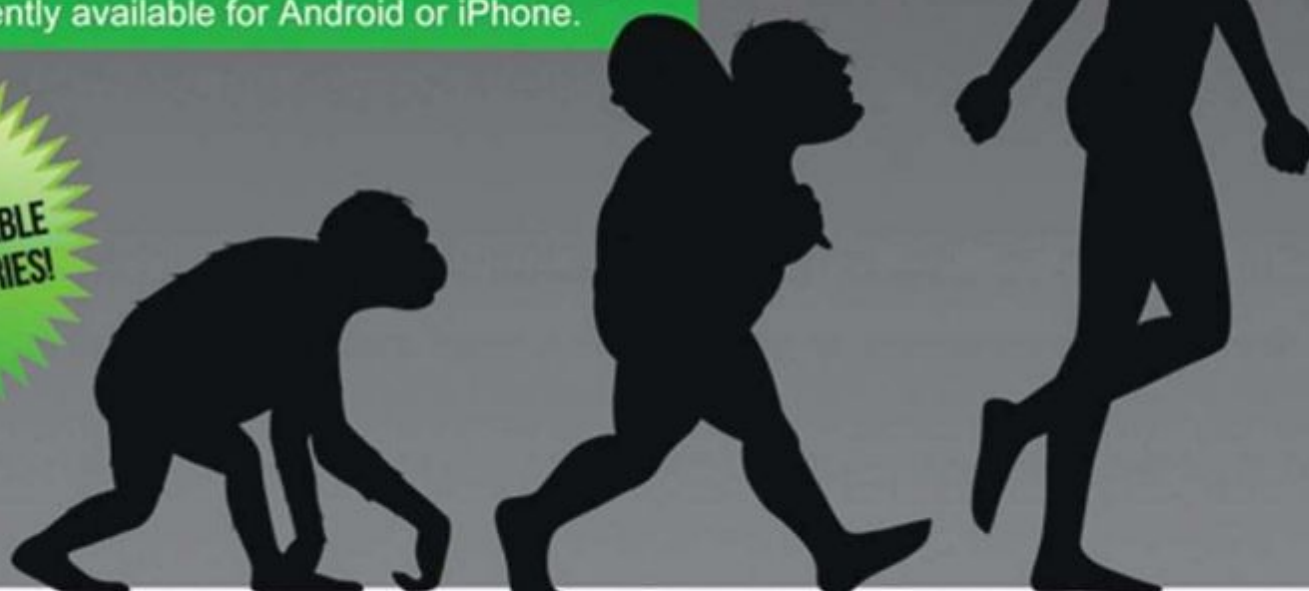
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“Operation Mercury was a joke,” Crockett replies. “They made it all up to scare most people to pull their crops at the beginning of the year. That’s why they held it in April and May. But it was all a big lie.”

He looks into the valley past his dirt-speckled windshield and a sky that was once flooded with DEA helicopters, and we soon pass a gardening store that arranges Fiskars tools and turkey bags into showy in-store displays come harvest time. The poverty in this area is as real as it is in the city, Crockett insists, and the War on Drugs is fought mercilessly against those born on the wrong side of the fence, no matter where they live. Yet they manage to survive all the same, thanks to cannabis.

“It’s one of the biggest economic boosts in this area as long as I’ve been alive,” he says. “There’s nothing else that’s come up here and gave so many people jobs and money—not even the Parks Service. Law enforcement forgets that before we put all that medical marijuana out on the stage, we were still fucking doing it. They couldn’t stop us before.”

A Puff of Smoke

“That’s the guy from *High Times* over there,” the cashier motions. I’ve kept my ID on the DL for the most part, but safe areas like this can be found all over the Sierras.

“No kidding!” Cormac rasps as he saunters over to my stool. He’s a doughy, aging hippie with a receding hairline and ponytail. “Did you know there was a shootout over in front of the church at Miramonte?”

“No,” I gasp.

“Yeah, it was cartels—some sort of rip-off. Took five females, but they had at least 500 plants growing there.” He shakes his head, hands me a filtered joint and launches into a classic get-off-my-lawn tirade about the new jacks in the game. “Of course, you wanted to make your money back then, but it was about more in those days. Nowadays, these kids have no respect for what we built up here.”

The door opens and a much younger visitor joins Cormac. He’s a good-natured, working-class, skateboard-and-tats type of bro from San Diego who’s checking out another harvest in the area. He’s convinced that he’s hit the mother lode with the buds he’s accessed through Cormac. There’s just one problem, though: “Wouldn’t you like to see some girls around here?”

“Yeah, sure!” Cormac agrees.

“Well, I know these strippers—totally



Waiting for the sun:
a Monterey Haze
shines on.

business, but they’ll come up, trim your weed, party with us. There’s this one Puerto Rican I know, I always call her up. For a few hundred and a few pounds, she’ll bring her friends over, they’ll go down on each other ... it’ll be a blast.” He later talks about a trip he’s arranging to Machu Picchu to research whether aliens helped the Incas construct the ancient compound. It all sounds like an old *In Search of ...* TV show narrated by Larry Flynt instead of Leonard Nimoy.

Later that day, I run into Crockett and tell him about my encounter with Cormac. He chuckles to himself. “I guess you ran into some of the local color after all,” he says. Apparently Cormac has been known to part ways with the truth at times, since no shootout ever took place in front of the church at Miramonte.

“Word travels fast in the mountains,” Crockett assures me. I mention the joint he gave me and, after inspecting it a bit, Crockett rewards Cormac’s product with a noncommittal shrug.

These mountains have no shortage of characters, and their history goes largely untold. Heading out to Crockett’s first-ever growroom in the mountains, which he still operates alongside his high-school buddy Tubbs, my knowledgeable host shows me Polaroids of some foundational outdoor grows from the ‘70s. In the faded shots, a spectral hippie earth mother poses in front of mammoth pot stalks almost twice her size—which was about five-foot-eight, I’m told. “That was back in the days before helicopters,” Crockett observes.

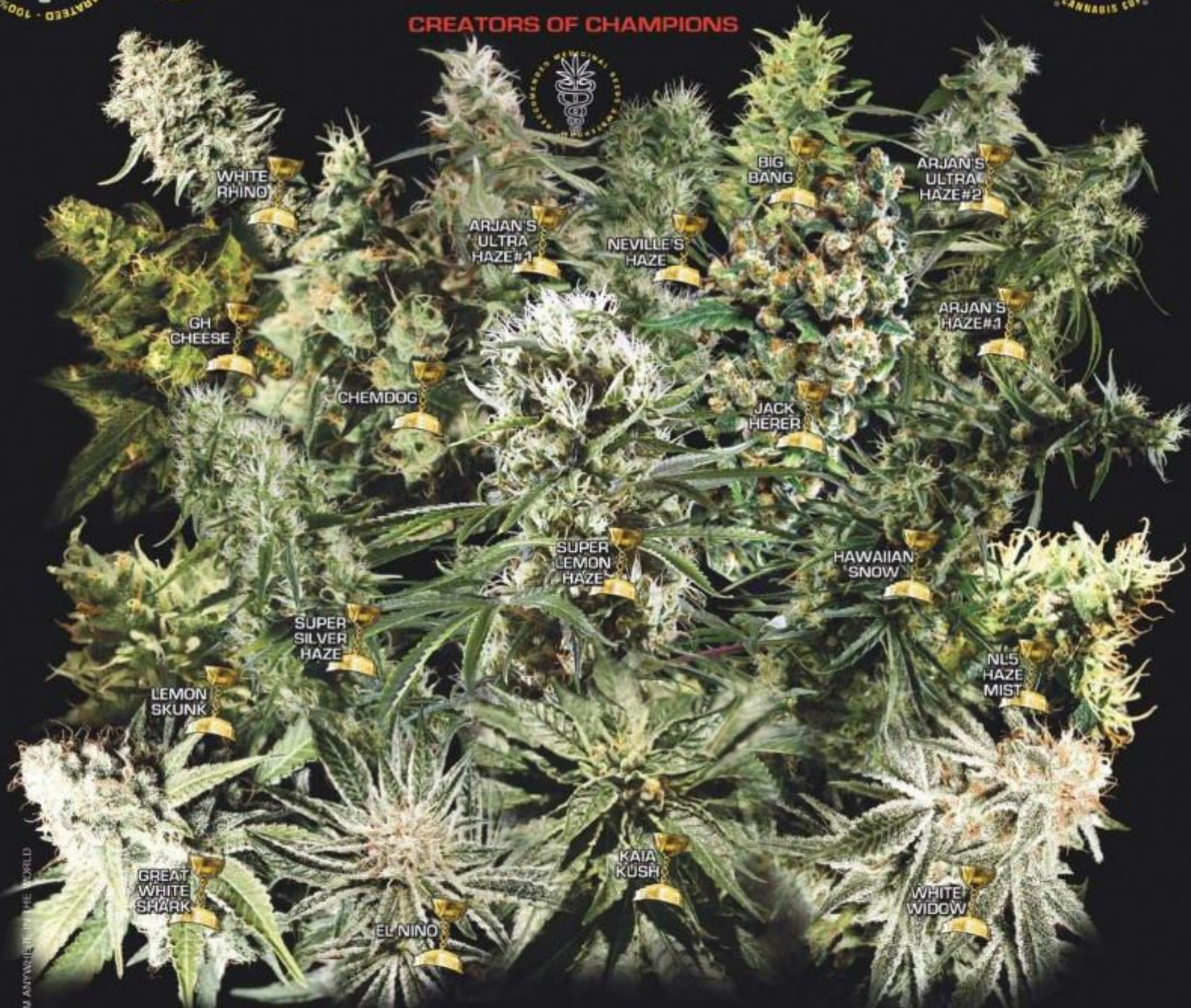
One can’t look at these photographs



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without feeling wistful. Back in the days when Polaroid film wasn't some über-expensive hipster fetish, *only* hippies grew this crop in this territory, and it's easy to understand Cormac's sorrow for what was lost. "Back in the day, the growers and even the smokers here were elite. They all knew each other," Crockett recalls. "Now there's just so many people growing and smoking, you can't keep track of everything—you just know either the real big guys or the people you've known forever."

Still, the sort of genetic tinkering coming out of Crockett's gardens and growrooms in the Sierras would have been unthinkable even 10 years ago, back when plants were grown under suboptimal lighting beneath thick arboreal canopies in the parks. "It's kind of nice to be able to just do your dream, like, 'Okay, I'm gonna bring a tractor in and I'm gonna dig a hole, and I'm gonna build a raised garden ... and I'm gonna grow a five-foot plant and veg in May,'" Crockett says. "You can take them to their potential instead of having to harvest them early because some emergency came up."

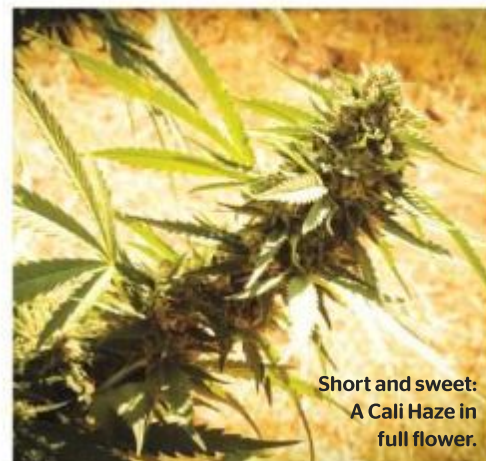
Majestic

A throng of European tourists and American retirees snaps photos of the General Sherman tree in Sequoia National Park. This tree, along with the nearby General

Grant tree in the Kings County section of the park, lord it over their sequoia brothers as the biggest, baddest and oldest of their kind. One of the signs along the way remarks on the time-honored reason that some sequoias reach this stature, while others die after a century having grown very little: "Location! Location! Location!"

The same could be said for Crockett's plants. His Cali Haze, which used to flower dangerously close to December, now comes in around November, thirty years after its introduction to the mountains. "Somehow the plant has known to come in earlier to survive," Crockett marvels. Over time, they've even learned how to thrive, just like the Generals.

John Muir, the Scottish-born American naturalist whose ghost is said to walk the trails of the park, once wrote of this region: "Here I could stay tethered forever, with just bread and water, nor would I be lonely. Loved friends and neighbors, as love for everything increased, would seem all the nearer, however many the miles and mountains between us." For his part, Crockett's had numerous offers to move to other medical states and operate grow sites there, but he always turns them down. The plants, one senses, wouldn't stand for it, and no matter who you are in the Sierras, they'll always have the final say. ✱



Short and sweet:
A Cali Haze in
full flower.

GROWING MASSIF BUDS

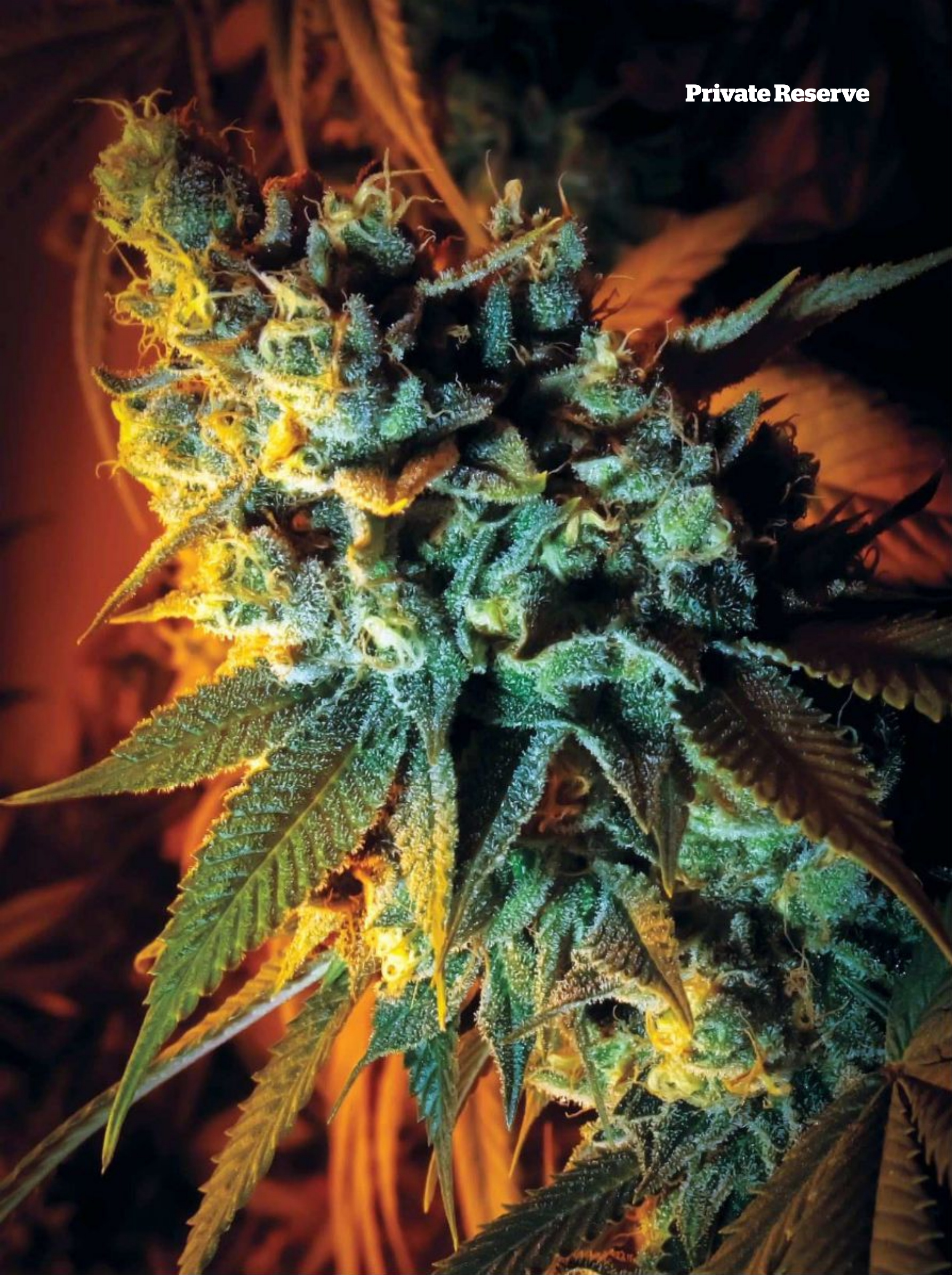
While Crockett and his partner, Tubbs, utilize much of the natural terrain for their gardening, from the sun to the water, which naturally comes out of their artesian wells hovering around 250 ppm, with a 6.0 to 6.5 pH level, it's misleading to consider their plants a full expression of Central Valley terroir. For starters, they don't grow them in the ground, but in 200-gallon Smart Pots using a medium familiar to most growers. For outdoors, Crockett uses a mixture of bat guano, earthworm castings, seabird guano, oyster shells and green sand, along with a blend of forest products and perlite sourced locally in the Sierras. Crockett will "tease" out the plants early in their development with simple fertilizers and then bring liquid fertilizers into the mix as they grow, favoring organic products such as Earth Juice and Roots Organic. Cartel growers in the parks, on the other hand, routinely use nitrate- and phosphate-laden mineral fertilizers in bulk quantities, leaving the unused bags to leach into the soil and seep into the creeks; the ensuing environmental damage from these practices is well documented. Crockett refuses to use such products, and so should you.

For air circulation in their growrooms, Crockett and Tubbs have developed an airflow filtration system specially tailored to the hazards of growing in the mountains. Vents from outside move the air from an initial antechamber into a "lung room" where the temperature is regulated and pollen, pests and other impurities can be screened out before it enters the veg and flowering chambers. "In the summertime, I'll bring my air in through the bottom [of the wall] and then, in the winter, vice versa. It gives me about a three- or four-degree swing when I flower during the days," Tubbs points out. "It's forced through the room, where it comes out on the top through a 10-inch max fan to kind of get a vortex working across the room, and then it pulls the air up and out."

Crockett steers clear of LEDs, since he finds them unsuitable for larger grows. Instead, he favors Galaxy 1,000-watt digital ballasts with metal halide (MH) lighting for the veg room and high-pressure sodium (HPS) lights for flowering. For pre-veg, Tubbs nurtures his fledgling buds in a small cabinet within his lung room. There, they sit on heating pads and feast on the light from a 400-watt MH lamp until the vegetative phase.

As for watering, Crockett's outdoor mountain buds are hand-watered with 10 to 15 gallons per plant. (He'd love to give them 25, but water's at a premium in the area.) On his own property, he uses two to three bubbler emitters on his plants, while Tubbs waters his indoors by hand using the lift method, checking the ppm in his runoff and then fertilizing accordingly.

Private Reserve



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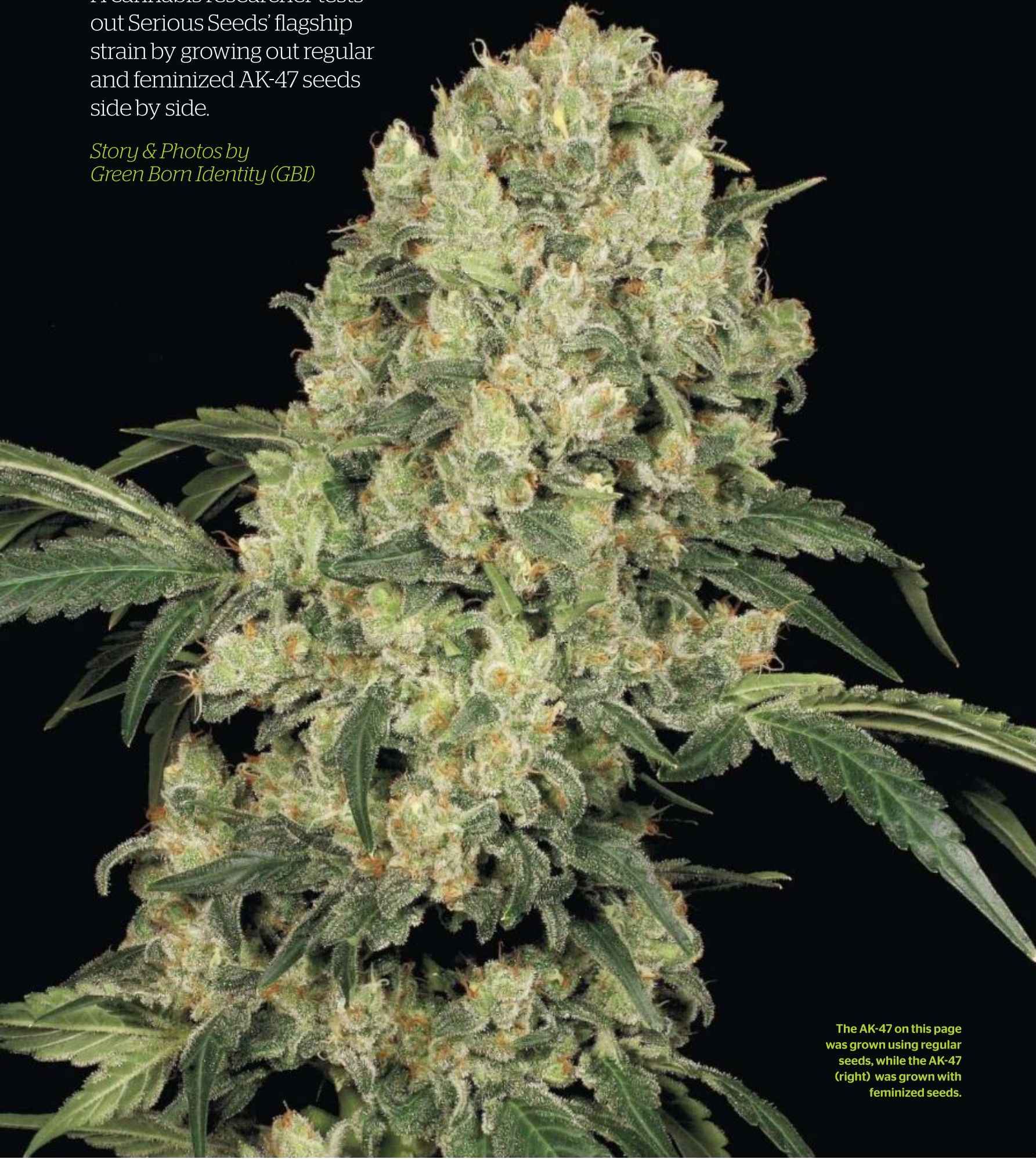
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Regular vs. Feminized Seed

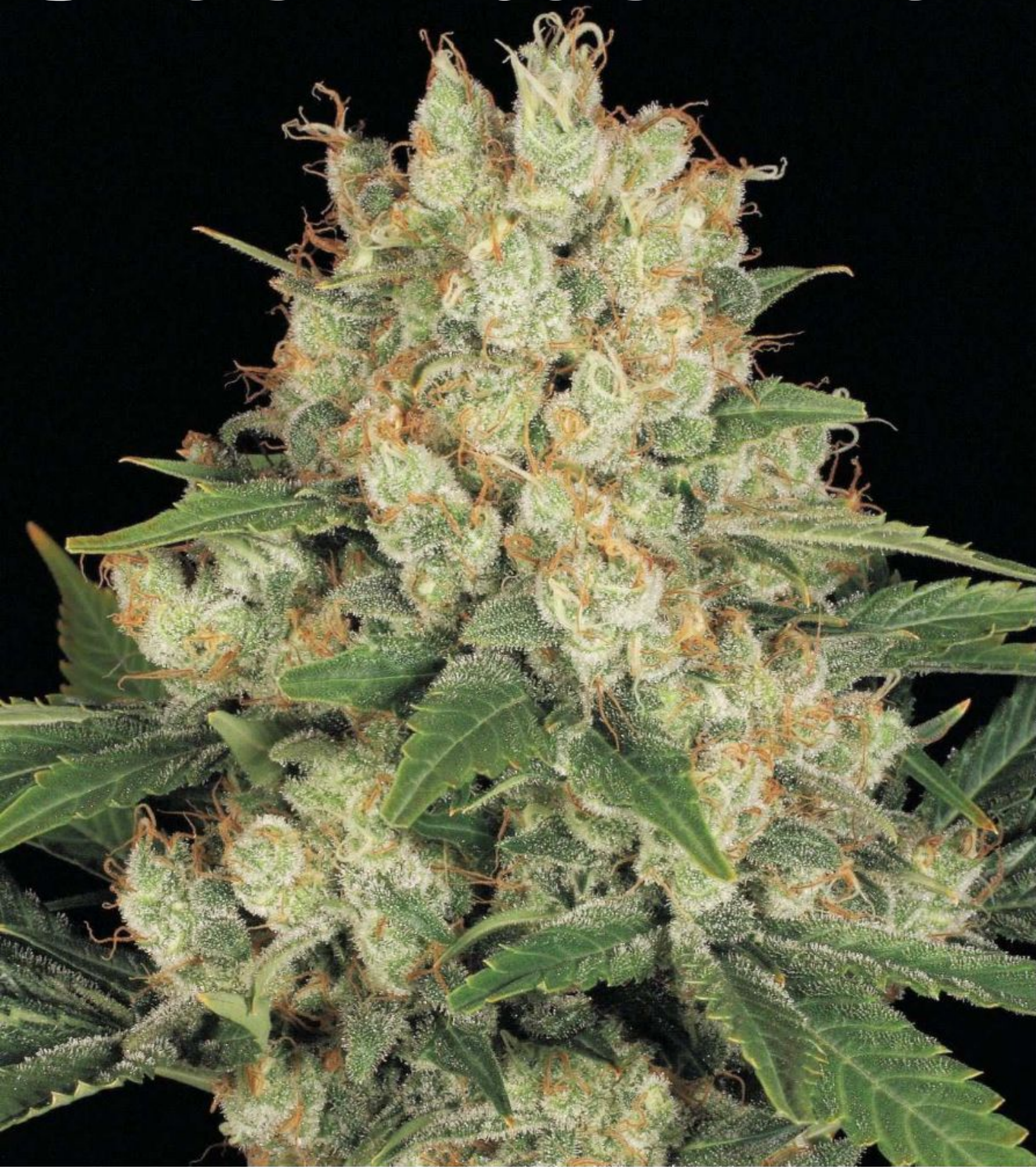
A cannabis researcher tests out Serious Seeds' flagship strain by growing out regular and feminized AK-47 seeds side by side.

*Story & Photos by
Green Born Identity (GBI)*

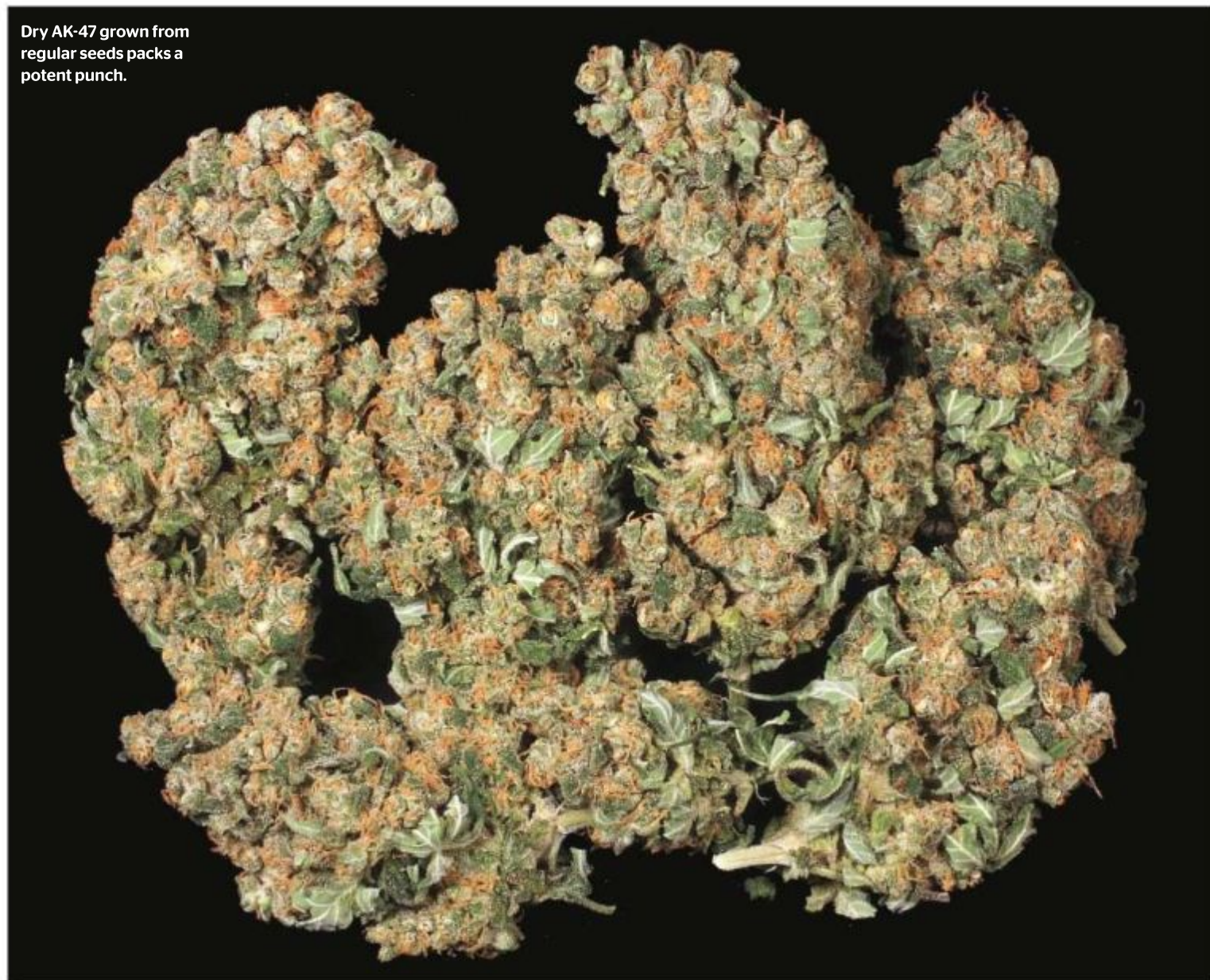


The AK-47 on this page was grown using regular seeds, while the AK-47 (right) was grown with feminized seeds.

Showdown



Dry AK-47 grown from regular seeds packs a potent punch.



The Strain

There's a handful of classic, extra-potent marijuana strains that have been around for a very long time, permanently fascinating both growers and smokers with their superb qualities and eventually attaining the status of legends. Serious Seeds' AK-47 is one of these outstanding evergreens. For Simon, the owner and breeder of Serious Seeds, finding that unique AK-47 genetic profile was the rare case of the "lucky punch" that every cannabis seed breeder dreams of. Back in 1992, after having already tested thousands of plants from different experimental breeding lines, he finally achieved his goal of creating a high-quality *sativa/indica* hybrid with excellent overall properties and its own unique stamp. Thus the legendary AK-47 was born.

Although Simon keeps the exact pedigree of AK-47 a secret (much like the formula for Coca-Cola), he reveals that it was bred from Colombian, Mexican, Thai and Afghan seed stock, resulting in a

65:35 *sativa/indica* hybrid with predominantly *sativa* traits.

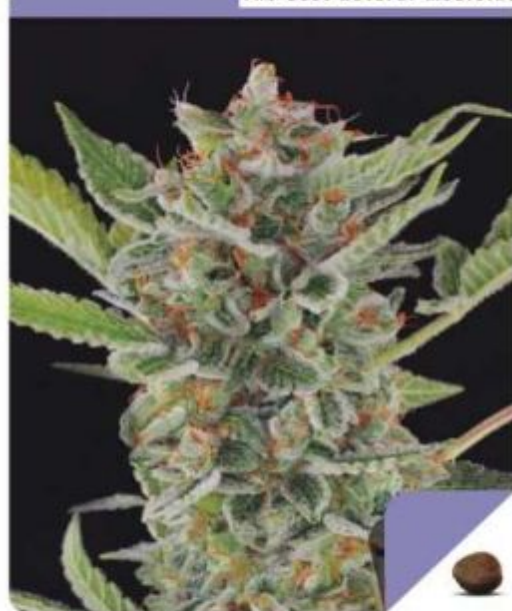
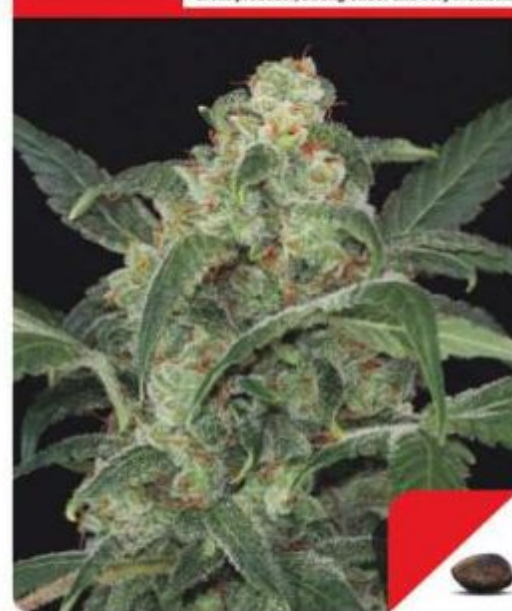
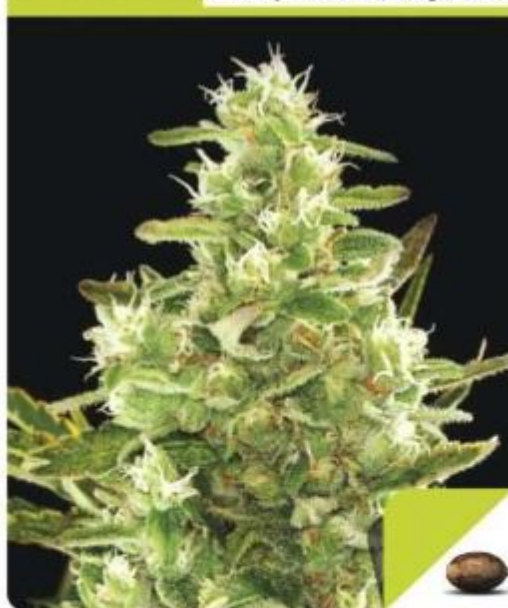
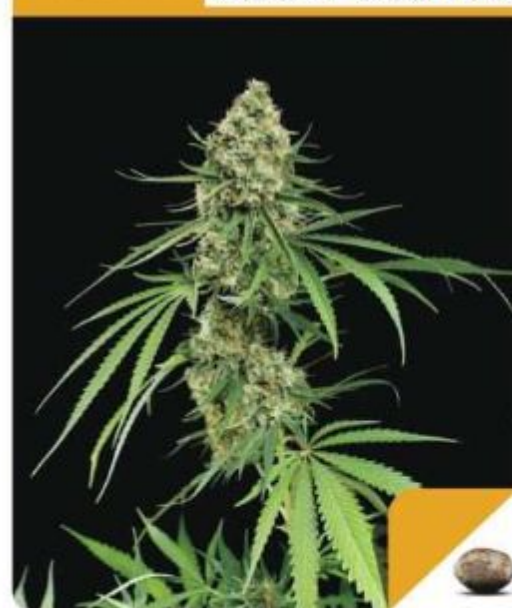
Over the years, AK-47 has racked up an impressive number of prizes—16!—at harvest competitions worldwide, including in the *High Times* Cannabis Cup's hybrid category in 2011. It was also chosen as Strain of the Year in 2003 (HT Dec. '03). In the form of hashish, AK has yielded major success for Serious Seeds as well—for example, when it took first prize at the 2005 High Life Cup in Barcelona in the hash category.

Simon describes AK-47 as follows: "This easy-to-grow plant is a living legend and our most popular strain. Medium height and produces good yields quite quickly. It has an extremely strong odor (growers, take extra care!) and a long-lasting high. AK-47 plants have a short flowering period for a *sativa*, producing compact, not-too-leafy buds gleaming with a coat of resin crystals. The name was given not out of any idea of violence, but more in association with

its 'one-hit wonder' effect. An independent lab test showed 21.5% THC in the samples at the Cannabis Cup in 1999, the highest of all entries that year."

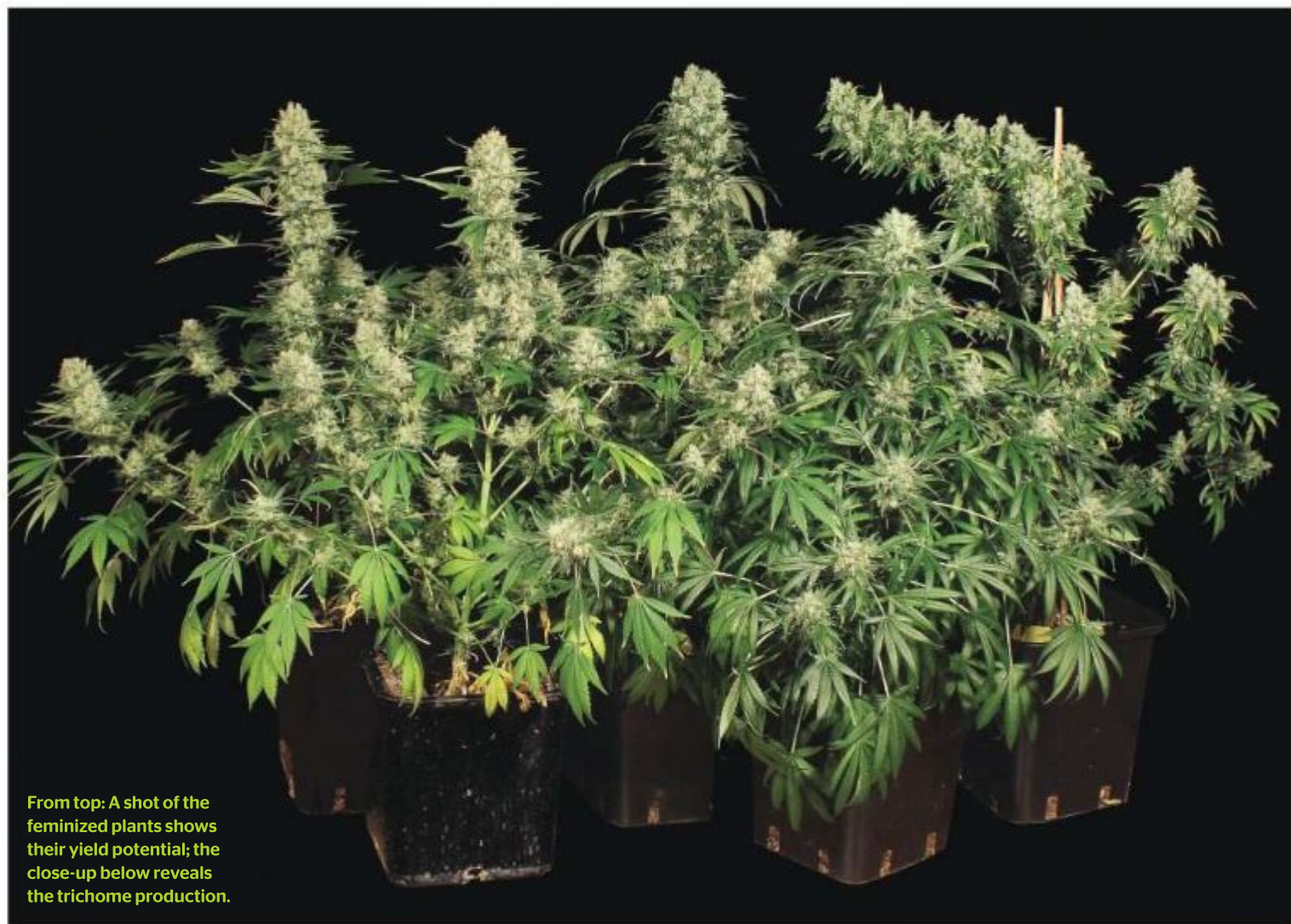
Simon recommends a five- to 10-day vegetative clone-growth period. AK-47 delivers yields of 350 to 500 g/m², has a flowering time of 56 to 63 days, and reaches maturity around October 15 under natural light. It has the high calyx-to-leaf ratio typical of *sativas*, which means lots of flowers and only a few leaves. The single calyx size tends to be unusually large, resulting in fat clusters grouped together very decoratively and densely, contributing to its trademark appearance. These compact nuggets ooze copious amounts of glistening trichomes and break up nicely, leaving plenty of resinous crystals on your fingers and unleashing a strong, sweet and fruity aroma. AK-47 is also famous for its outstanding results in hydroponic mediums, as reported by many international growers, and has been very successfully grown outdoors in Spain.

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From top: A shot of the feminized plants shows their yield potential; the close-up below reveals the trichome production.

The Challenge

Since last year, AK-47 has been available in the form of feminized seeds. That made the grower known as Mr. Power Planter curious, so he decided to run a test: a head-to-head comparison of both regular and feminized AK-47 seeds. Never before has such a comparison been reported in any magazine, so here it is. Would the feminized AK-47 seeds prove to be as much a contender as their long-established traditional counterparts?

Mr. Power Planter sowed a full package of 11 regular AK-47 seeds and five feminized ones. Germination proceeded very well, and after four days, all of the seeds had sprouted and reached the soil's surface. From the start, they were grown under three 600-watt Green Bud metal halide (MH) lamps equipped with adjustable reflectors (without spreaders), so the plants had abundant light to thrive and prosper. One week after germination, they were transplanted into 11-liter containers filled with Plagron Standard soil mix. All 16 plants did well, growing very compactly and with a quick onset of side-branch development and dark green leaves. They were also very homogeneous, both within their group and when



the feminized and regular plants were compared to one another.

Three and a half weeks after germination, Mr. Power Planter induced flowering by reducing the light cycle from 18/6 to 12/12, at the same time replacing the MH lights with three 600-watt Osram high-pressure sodium (HPS) lamps. Within 10 days, all of the

plants had revealed their sex, with five of the 11 regular AK-47 plants turning out to be males that were then removed. As expected, the five feminized plants presented only female pre-flowers. In the first weeks of flowering, though, it was observed that the feminized plants reacted a bit more slowly to the onset of the flowering period, with the regular plants progressing more quickly into flower production. Other than that, in terms of the overall growth pattern, both the regular and feminized plants still had the same appearance.

Soon, all 11 plants were building very fat main colas and many impressive side tops in addition. The feminized plants were about one week behind in their bud development, but still flowering in a most promising way. A very strong, sweet odor took possession of the growroom, arising from the richness of the massive resin layers on both the feminized and regular plants. All 11 plants were literally oozing with resin as they approached maturity, appearing whiter and whiter with each subsequent week of flowering. The buds consisted of many thick, dense, round flower clusters, rock-hard and chubby—in short, the trademark AK-47 look.

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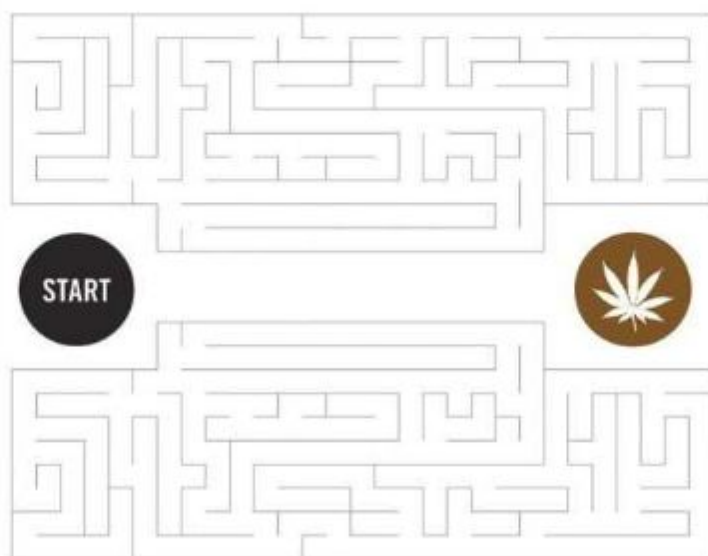
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Plants grown from regular seeds stretch a bit more than their feminized counterparts.



Cultivation Data

Strain	AK-47, regular vs. feminized
Pedigree	Mostly sativa (65%)
Vegetative stage	24 days
Flowering stage	63-69 days; 56-63 days in general
Medium	Plagron Standard Mix
Container volume	6.5 liters
pH	6.0-6.3
EC	2.0 mS max. (approx. 1,200 ppm)
Light	Vegetative stage: 3 x 600-watt Green Bud MH Flowering stage: 3 x 600-watt Osram HPS
Temperature	Night: 16-19°C (61-66°F) Day: 20-26°C (68°-78°F)
Air humidity	40-60%
Watering	Gardena "Urlaubsbewässerung" System
Fertilizers	Canna Terra Vega Canna Terra Flores PK 13/14 (during flowering week 6)
Stimulators/Additives	Rhizotonic Wurzel, CannaZym, Bcuzz Blütestimulator
Height	Regular plants: 85-102 cm (34-40 in) Feminized plants: 65-85 cm (25-34 in)
Yield	Regular plants: 73, 86, 87, 95, 98, 106 = 91 g/average Feminized plants: 86, 98, 99, 114, 120 = 103.4 g/average

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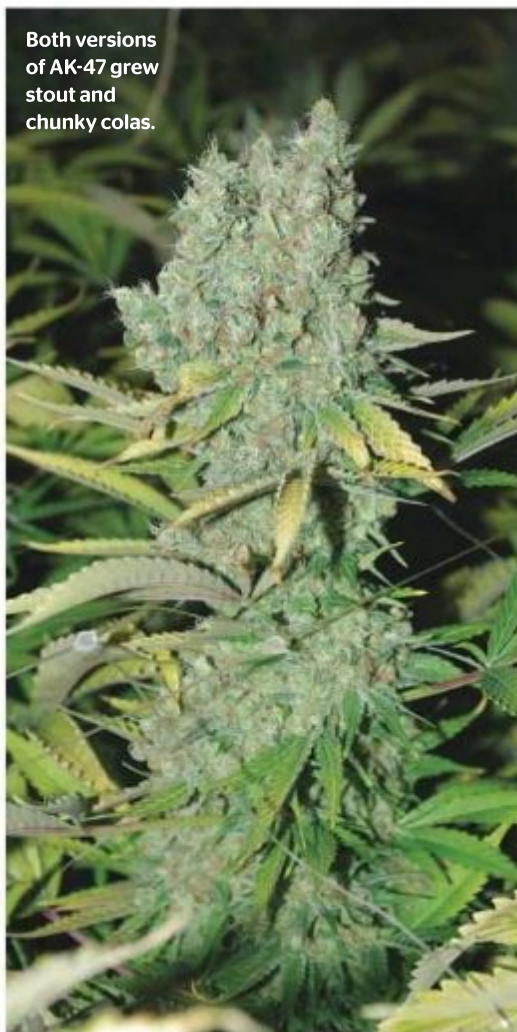
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The Results

The six regular AK plants were harvested on day 63, just within the 56-to-63-day window promised by Serious Seeds. They produced tremendously fat main and side colas from the bottom to the top, with some of the huge main colas measuring more than 30 cm in length—really big, impressive chunks! The flower structure of these six plants was almost identical, and the same was true for their rich resin amounts.

As for the five feminized AK plants, they did require about one extra flowering week and were harvested after 69 days. They had grown lower than their regular counterparts, measuring from 65 to 85 cm in height only (with three plants about 75 cm), apart from one plant that was subject to a much stronger *sativa* influence and grew accordingly taller. But the feminized plants' side branches were longer, for the most part, than those of the regular plants, while their fabulous, fat flower structure and copious resin amounts were equal to them, though with one difference: The side buds—including the lowest ones—were even bigger! Both the regular and feminized plants had the same powerful aroma, sweet but quite mild.

Both versions of AK-47 grew stout and chunky colas.



The delicious-smelling, very silver dried buds were of the highest order, a sheer pleasure to look at and smoke. No difference was found between the regular and feminized buds by Mr. Power Planter in terms of odor, aroma and high. While AK is a strain that doesn't have the most intense taste—it's a bit mild and slightly sweet, with a hint of a sandalwood undertone, but not especially charismatic—its high proved to be quite a sensation. It was very complex and extremely strong, with clearly pronounced elements from both ends of the cannabis spectrum asserting themselves ... at the same time! Under the influence of the AK's potent *indica* side, Mr. Power Planter felt like taking a seat, but he simultaneously felt clear and euphoric in the head and didn't get "hypnotized" or totally blasted away by the *indica* stone.

Altogether, Mr. Power Planter was stunned by the superb outcome of both the regular and feminized plants. Like many tried and true strains, AK-47 has been often adopted by other seed banks and either used as a component in creating a "new" strain or just flat-out copied. But one thing's for sure about Serious Seeds' AK-47: You can't beat the real thing! ✨

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Welcome to Land of Lead and Silver

With an annual rate of 300 murders per 100,000 inhabitants, Ciudad Juárez has been the most dangerous city in the world for years. Lately, the murder rate has decreased significantly: There were only 45 murders in June, including one decapitation and a nasty mutilation. That, according to the authorities, is a huge improvement. And indeed, the month of June was the quietest on record in recent years. The crime photographer of the local newspaper is now sent to traffic accidents. The tough approach of the new police commissioner is yielding results—or so, at least, the authorities say. Others whisper that the bloodiest days are over because the Sinaloa cartel has won its battle with the Juárez cartel for control of the city. But everywhere else in Mexico, the killing goes on as usual.

**Story & photos
by Teun Voeten**

T

while during those very violent days. Back then, we raced together from crime scene to crime scene—Soria working three phones at the same time with his knees on the steering wheel, me handling the transmission stick. The trick was to get there before the authorities arrived and sealed off the place with yellow police tape, while the victims could still be approached and photographed up close, without the need for a telephoto lens. Soria had mastered that art.

“*Tranquilo, hombre,*” he comments now when I visit him again at the offices of *El Diario*. He has just returned from a *choque*—a boring traffic accident. Of course, he is happy that his city has become safer, but he also sounds a bit disappointed. The wild years are over ... at least in Juárez.

hey call him the Recorder of Death. Lucio Soria, who works for Juárez’s biggest daily, *El Diario*, estimates that he’s photographed approximately 2,500 murders over the past five years: “Sometimes even 20 a day,” he says about 2009 and 2010, when the killings had reached their zenith. I used to accompany him once in a



Juárez

March 2010, Ciudad Juárez.
Police investigate a murder.
Like most killings in the city, this
one is probably narco-related.

In late 2006, former Mexican President Felipe Calderón declared war on the drug cartels and sent some 40,000 troops into battle—the army as well as the federal police. Since then, approximately 50,000 people have been killed in the resulting violence, far more than US combat deaths in Iraq and Afghanistan combined. The violence has spiraled out of control because the cartels are fighting on two fronts: against the authorities and against each other as well. That second front, where the cartels battle for dominance, has been the bloodiest—and one of the biggest prizes in this *narco* war is the border city of Juárez, the sister city of El Paso, TX. With four border crossings, it is of crucial strategic importance. It was that way during the

Mexican Revolution nearly 100 years ago, and not much has changed since. Whoever controls the *plaza* in Juárez has access to the huge American market.

The orgy of violence exploded in 2008 when the powerful Sinaloa cartel tried to dislodge the weakened Juárez cartel. The year 2010 closed with an official death rate of 3,111. Others say it was closer to 3,600—an average of nine or 10 murders a day. It was not only the bloodiest year in the history of Juárez: The city also held the absolute world record and beat out such other notoriously violent cities as San Pedro Sula in Honduras, Baghdad in Iraq, and the Venezuelan capital of Caracas. In 2011, that number dropped to some 2,000 “intentional deaths” (the official name for murders), and that

trend continued in the first months of 2012. These days, Juárez averages approximately two or three murders a day. There was even a weekend early in the year without a single killing—a fact so rare that it became headline news in *El Diario*.

The authorities have been quick to praise the tough law-and-order approach of the city’s new police commissioner, Julián Leyzaola. Others attribute the drop in homicides to the fact that the Sinaloa cartel has won. Cynics say there is simply nothing left to kill anymore. “The peace of the graveyard,” offers Peter Hinde, an American missionary who has worked in Juárez for more than 20 years.

Deserted

Indeed, not much is left of the bustling Juárez that once attracted droves of tourists from the United States every weekend to party in the city’s notorious red-light district, where the laws on drinking and prostitution are so much more liberal than in the USA. Now, two out of three bars have closed, says Roberto Lopez, the owner of La Cucaracha, a bar literally 10 steps from the bridge linking the two countries. Lopez hasn’t seen much of a clientele over the last few years. The three times I visited him on a weekend night, the place was empty.

Sometimes, a few journalists from El Paso come for a quick visit and grab a beer, but that’s about it. Avenida Juárez used to be packed with revelers on the weekends; now, a lonely soul moves around nervously on the deserted streets at night and quickly takes refuge in one of the few sleazy bars that remain open. Out of 1.4 million inhabitants, some 300,000 people have fled Juárez since the bloodshed started. Those who could get a visa to the United States simply crossed into El Paso. The less fortunate migrants returned to their states of origin in the impoverished south of the country, such as Chiapas, Oaxaca and Tabasco, from which they had migrated a decade ago with great expectations. Whole neighborhoods have now been transformed into ghost towns where stray dogs and alley cats forage in between derelict houses. Forty percent of small businesses, sick of the violence and continued extortion, have closed their doors or moved to El Paso.

The police and judiciary are not only overworked, but notoriously corrupt as well—and not necessarily because the cops and judges are evil. The average policeman in Juárez was most likely a classmate of the local gangsters, and he’s

usually given an ultimatum: cooperate for a little extra money on the side or be killed. *Plata o plomo*, silver or lead, as the saying goes.

That's why Calderón employed the army, on the theory that it was less susceptible to corruption. But Human Rights Watch published an extensive report in 2010 about multiple cases of torture and disappearances in which the army was involved. That year, when *El Diario* took a poll, 87 percent of the inhabitants of Juárez said they had no confidence in the military. In fact, parts of the army are directly involved in criminal activity; some even describe it as a rising new cartel.

The same holds true for the federal

Super Cop

"We only had 60 murders in February; now, in June, we had 45," says Karin Villareal, the municipal spokeswoman at Juárez city hall. "It's still a lot for a city of one million people, but we are clearly heading in the right direction." According to Villareal, this is all thanks to the new commissioner of police, Julián Leyzaola, who was put in charge a year

Cooperate for a little extra money on the side or be killed. *Plata o plomo*, silver or lead, as the saying goes.

In Juárez, Leyzaola divided the city into small sectors and started aggressive patrols. *Cholos*, the Mexican term for small-time hoodlums—and, in fact, pretty much anyone with a bandana, low-hanging trousers and tattoos who looked like a public menace—found themselves stopped, searched and often arrested. Leyzaola has also cracked down on police corruption, with 300 of Juárez's 2,300 municipal cops purged for incompetence or unprofessional behavior.

The sense of security among the citizens has improved, but Leyzaola is caught between a rock and a hard place. In January, he started receiving threats from the Juárez cartel, which accused him of working with its archrival, the Sinaloa cartel. Every day, the cartel promised, a policeman would be murdered until Leyzaola resigned. He stayed on, but he put his officers in safe hotels where they could be better protected. The left, meanwhile, has accused Leyzaola of illegal arrests and human rights abuses, up to and including torture; prisoners have even testified how they saw the police commissioner personally beating up other inmates. Leyzaola hardly talks with the press, but he denies the allegations and calls them a smear campaign initiated by his enemies.

Twilight Zone

"Whatever," Fletcher comments sardonically. "If they shoot down 20 or six people a day, it's still crazy here." Fletcher is an old, wrinkled American wearing a cowboy hat who hangs at a place called the Yanquis, one of the last remaining bars of questionable reputation still operating on Avenida Juárez. There he drinks cheap beer and flirts with obese and withered prostitutes. Fletcher is retired, but he could never live on his benefits in the USA. Here, just across the bridge in Juárez, he can afford a decent life and is part of a community of American economic refugees, such as junkies and the homeless, who have washed up in the city.

The Yanquis made headlines a year ago when a *comando armada*, as a group of armed thugs is called in Juárez, stormed the place and executed eight rival criminals. Fletcher has already seen six people killed in front of his eyes. "You get used to it," he shrugs. He hasn't the slightest confidence in the authorities—in fact, he mistrusts Mexicans in general. "They are brought up as babies to lie and steal," he says. "When a Mexican is visiting you, he has this urge to steal something, even if it's just a teaspoon or an ashtray."



Federal military police on patrol. Many officers of the municipal police have been sacked for corruption.

police: At this moment, 10 *federales* in Juárez are being investigated for extortion, robbery, theft, kidnapping, drug trafficking and narcotics possession. These charges shocked nobody in Mexico. The key witness, a businessman named Eligio Ibarra, was killed and burned in his house just before the start of the investigation earlier this year. Most people in Juárez are used to such news: 98 percent of the murders are not solved and never will be, so there's a complete sense of lawlessness and impunity as a result. How many crimes actually take place, nobody knows, because most people don't even bother to report them; doing so is perceived as a waste of time.

ago. Colonel Leyzaola, originally an army officer, made his mark in unruly Tijuana, which he was able to pacify through the adage "You can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs." His methods seem to have been inspired in part by American police commissioners like Bill Bratton and Ray Kelly, whose "zero tolerance" and "stop-and-frisk" policies have been credited with seriously reducing crime in New York City over the past 20 years. Leyzaola has also adopted CompStat, the computerized "crime management" system championed by Bratton, which allows the authorities, through the real-time statistical analysis of types of crime by neighborhood, to determine where best to concentrate police resources.

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Fletcher subscribes to a kind of chaos theory. There are many other theories about the ongoing violence, says Howard Campbell, an anthropologist from the University of Texas at El Paso, who is studying the “Drug War zone” and has even published a book by that title. Left-leaning theories are the most popular. “Some see the violence as a logical consequence of the NAFTA free-trade zone that has created an underclass of underpaid and unemployed youngsters who now look for a career in the drug trade,” Campbell says. According to others of a more conspiratorial bent, the violence is a broad social cleansing campaign meant to rid the country of undesirable, antisocial elements. Yet another theory sees the intervention of the army and *federales* as the beginning of a military dictatorship intent on bringing the unruly and rebellious north under government control.

Campbell doesn’t have a simple explanation to offer. “All these theories carry some valid elements,” he says, but he thinks that the truth will ultimately prove impossible to discover. “The Drug War takes place in an inaccessible twilight zone,” he explains.

Campbell is also careful not to offer a simple explanation for the decreasing



Police arrest a man for domestic abuse, while practically all murders in Juárez go unsolved.

crime rate. As for the rumors that the authorities favor the Sinaloa cartel, “that is hard to prove,” he says. “But it is remarkable that in the last years, only big bosses from the Juárez cartel have been arrested.”

The most recent such arrest was José

Antonio Acosta, nicknamed El Diego, who headed the Juárez cartel’s armed wing and is said to be responsible for the deaths of a few thousand people. El Diego could now spend the rest of his life in an American prison. Earlier this year, *Newsweek* reported that members of the Sinaloa cartel have been working as informers for the US Drug Enforcement Administration, mainly by ratting out their competitors in the rival cartel. Last March, the Juárez cartel made its feelings on this situation known by hanging a *narcomanta* across a local bridge addressed to the new police commissioner. (*Narcomantas* are messages on banners or spray-painted as graffiti; besides the gory videos put up on YouTube, they are the favored method of communication for the cartels, which cannot hold press conferences.)

“Leyzaola, you son of a whore, you are an errand boy for El Chapo,” it read. The banner was signed “La Línea”—the name for the Juárez cartel’s branch of professional killers (much like America’s own storied Murder Inc.). “El Chapo” would be Joaquín Guzmán, the boss of the Sinaloa cartel: number 55 on the *Forbes* list of the richest people in the world and, after the elimination of Osama bin Laden, number one on the FBI’s 10 most wanted list.

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Diversification

It is hard to deny that the streets of Juárez have become a bit friendlier lately. The main street in the city center, which used to be deserted, is once again packed with shoppers during the day. There's even a bunch of hippies playing music on flutes, tambourines and didgeridoos. People have assembled in great numbers to hear the street artists. This would have been unthinkable a year ago.

So Juárez is breathing a bit easier again. But the Drug War continues, sometimes less conspicuously here than in other places. During a lull in the fighting in Juárez earlier this year, 12 soldiers in the state of Michoacán were lured into an ambush and killed. In Guadalajara, cartels blocked the main streets with trucks that were set aflame, simply to show their power, and in the state of Nuevo León, new mass graves were uncovered. Meanwhile, in Tamaulipas, 14 members of Los Zeta were decapitated. The carnage was filmed and posted on YouTube, including a *narcomanta* from the Sinaloa cartel, which carried out the executions. Last May, a new record for cruelty was set: The dismembered remains of 49 people were found in plastic bags on a highway near Nuevo Laredo.



Downtown Juárez, once a thriving party town, is mostly deserted due to security concerns.

In Juárez, then, all seems quiet except for the occasional decapitation, with the remains unceremoniously dumped in a ditch. But in the city's prison, huge weapon caches are found buried on the grounds. The director is arrested and accused of permitting inmates to leave the prison during the day to freelance as *sicarios* (hired killers). The *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times* report the same weekend on a new scourge sweeping Mexico: a wave of kidnappings and extortions that has

paralyzed social and economic life in some areas. It is clear that the cartels are diversifying: After all, they are flexible, ultra-capitalist corporations with several branches, of which narcotics is only one. Juárez may have become relatively quiet, but the Drug War in Mexico is far from over. ✧

Teun Voeten's new book, *Narco Estado: Drug Violence in Mexico*, is an intimate portrait of the war just south of the US border. Visit teunvoeten.com for more details.

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THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW

AT HIS HOME IN HOLLYWOOD, TOMMY CHONG SAUNTERS OUT THROUGH THE GLASS DOORS OF HIS BRIGHT, AIRY LIVING ROOM INTO A QUIET BACKYARD SANCTUARY, LUSH WITH FOLIAGE AND LIGHTLY EMBELLISHED WITH THE ICONOGRAPHY OF THE FAR EAST.

CHONG IS EASILY ONE OF THE MOST DOWN-TO-EARTH CELEBRITIES YOU'LL EVER COME ACROSS. HE'S WITHOUT PRETENSE, GENEROUS WITH FANS, AND NEVER ABRUPT OR ALOOF. TODAY, AS ALWAYS, HE'S IN GOOD HUMOR. HE'LL OFTEN PLAYFULLY SWITCH INTO HIS CLASSIC STONER PERSONA. IN ONE MOMENT, HE'LL BE DEEP IN DISCUSSION REGARDING THE RANGE OF READING MATERIAL THAT HE'S RELYING ON TO GUIDE HIM THROUGH HIS ORDEAL. IN THE NEXT, HE'LL MUSE IN CHONG-SPEAK: "MAN, I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MANY DIFFERENT FINGERS HAVE BEEN UP MY ASS!"

DESPITE THE SERIOUSNESS OF HIS CONDITION, TOMMY IS RELENTLESSLY COMICAL AND ABSOLUTELY UNPANICKED. HE IS CONFIDENT IN THE TREATMENT CHOICES HE'S MADE—WHICH INCLUDE CANNABIS—AND WORKS ASSIDUOUSLY TO MAINTAIN A POSITIVE FRAME OF MIND. AN AFTERNOON SPENT WITH THE COMEDY LEGEND IS A LESSON IN HOW TO LEAD ONE'S LIFE HAPPILY AND CREATIVELY.

What was your reaction after being diagnosed with prostate cancer?

It was a slap in the face, man, because I've been healthy all my life. I was blindsided. But all they found was, "Ah, there *might* be something there. Oh, yeah—but you're okay." But I needed a biopsy, and they found it. The good news: It's a slow-moving prostate cancer.

Were you angry at all? Like, "Goddammit—this is not what I had planned!"

No, I've always been one to figure out ways to put things to my advantage—like what I did on CNN. I was supposed to talk about legalizing pot,

but I thought it was a really good time to tell everybody I got cancer. So many people hide it, like it's an embarrassment.

So what was the treatment you decided upon?

My first treatment was with the "straight" doctor. He gave me a pill to shrink the prostate; it's called Avodart, and it's a female hormone. One of the reasons you get a swollen prostate is because you're not putting out enough testosterone, and the prostate starts looking for it. So it starts swelling up, and the female hormone eliminates the need. It's like a sex change, but you do lose your libido—though

when you have cancer, that's the least of your problems. But then I went to a holistic doctor in Victoria, BC, who put me on a diet of pills: a lot of heavy, concentrated fish oils and concentrated green tea as a supplement ... But I would suggest that anybody who has cancer go to a holistic doctor as well.

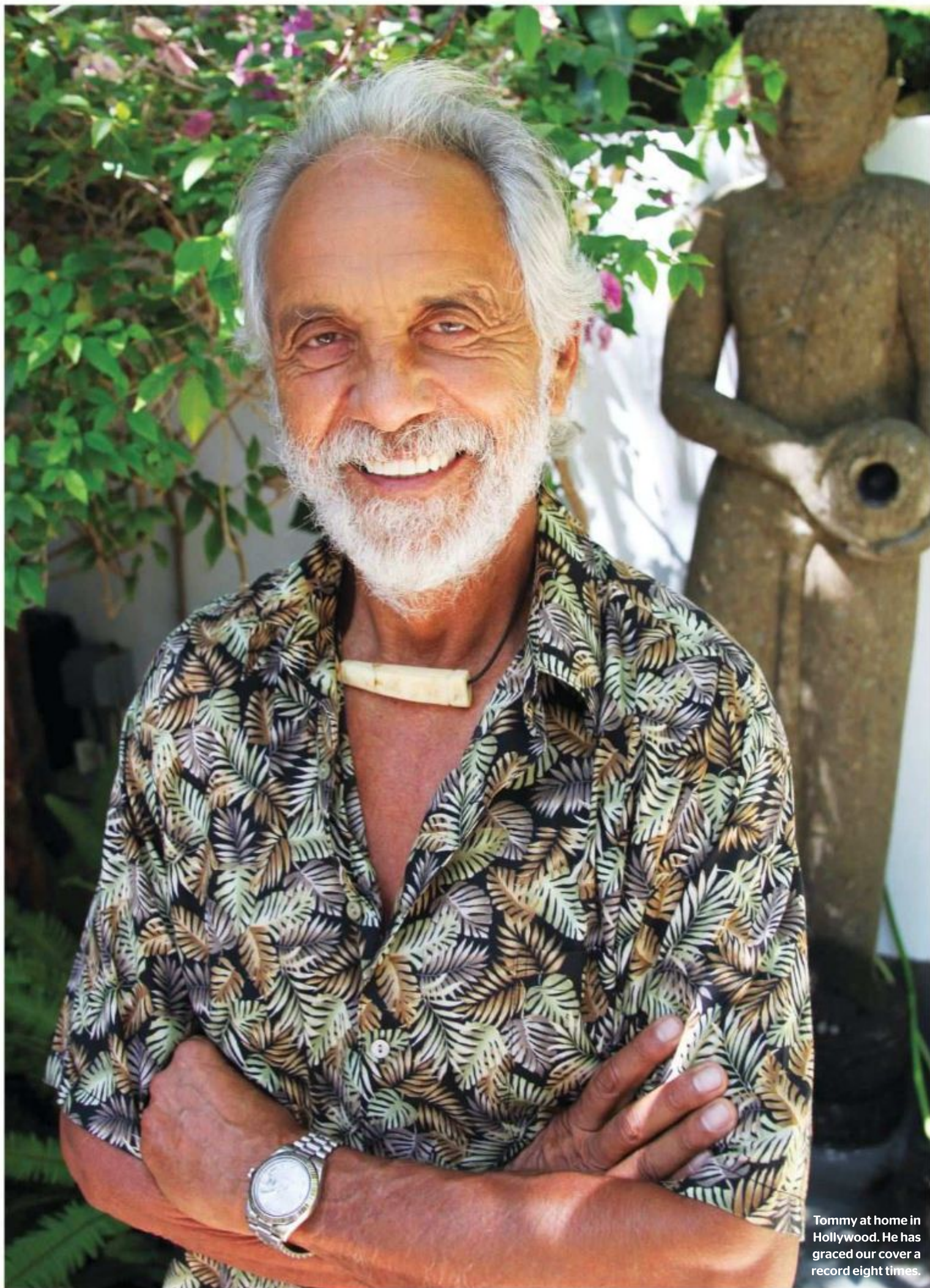
How are you doing?

My PSA numbers are down to like under two. [PSA is a protein produced by the prostate gland. The higher a man's PSA level, the more likely it is that he has prostate cancer.] My prostate shrunk. But you can't really go by the PSA; it's just an indicator.

Your life has been changed by cannabis in three very big ways. It made you a star. It gave the Feds a pretext for sending you to prison. And now it may save your life ...

It will save my life! Cannabis is what really connects me with the spiritual world. When I smoke, I head right for the books. I get that spiritual energy going—and let me tell you, there is nothing more powerful than that energy. It's true energy: You see through everything. That's when you pick up an instrument and you'll play the most beautiful music—or whatever you do. You're connected with the Spirit.

I've got such respect for the plant. It really is God's gift to us. I've got such respect, such reverence—literally reverence for it. It's been with me when I had absolutely nothing, when I was literally sleeping on the floor in a friend's house. But I had that bud with me, and that's all I needed. I remember my first wife caught me messing around, and she kicked me out of the house. I took everything I needed: my record player, my records and my bag of weed. That's how I am; that's all I needed. I had my music and my weed, and I didn't need anything else.



Tommy at home in Hollywood. He has graced our cover a record eight times.

Has your diagnosis made you more spiritually inclined?

I've been on a spiritual kick ever since I first smoked pot. But I got out my healing books. Then I got on the Internet, because I kept hearing these "pot cures cancer" things. So I checked that out. I started doing the cannabis oil—only a little bit, though. The first time I did too much, and I was incapacitated for two days.

I wanted the possibilities of cannabis as cancer medicine on everybody's mind. That's why I went on CNN and said it—because I wanted to reach the right set of people. This *is* a medicine; it's an effective medicine. Now my holistic doctor, he wouldn't okay the cannabis. I asked him about it, and he really didn't answer me. [*Laughing*] He's worried about his medical license.

What other treatment are you undergoing?

The cure that I'm really using is water. See, the prostate is down there with the plumbing, and the one thing that one doctor told me when he checked me was that I was water-deficient. He taught me: about four or five big eight-ounce glasses of water every day. The magical cure is water. Also, the thing that really feeds cancer is sugar, so you gotta get rid of it. I don't eat any sugar. Sugar is the worst thing we have.

How has your wife Shelby handled this?

She's a trouper. She wasn't worried at all. She said, "You're okay, you'll be all right, you'll beat it." She knows it—and she knows how I live.

How long have you two been together?

Forty-odd years. I met her when she was like six ... it was illegal for the first 10 years of our relationship. No, she's incredible.

What's your relationship with Cheech like these days? Some



"You don't do anybody any good sitting in a cave tripping off in the astral world. You're here on Earth; you can be there, too, but you've got to participate."

have compared it to Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis, who often had disagreements.

It's similar. Cheech is like a bonsai tree that grew toward the other side of the hill than me. We're perfect. We're opposites. It's why we get along. I'll smoke a doobie and get a great idea and call him up. Or I'll email him and he'll shoot it back. We're totally opposite. We get onstage, it's magical—but our personal lives don't even intersect.

My partner is my wife. She's my partner in business and in bed and onstage.

Let's get back to your sense of spirituality. First off, do you believe in a prime force in the universe?

Oh, yeah. I believe—in fact, I *know*—that there's not a God who judges. There's no God that rewards you; there's no God that punishes you. That's the old belief. That's the problem with the world today: the belief in a God separate from ourselves. There's no such thing. It's the same thing as believing that darkness has power. There's no power in darkness. Darkness is the absence of light, pure and simple.

God *is*—and anything evil is the absence of God.

That's all. And man really is a beast if he doesn't activate the part in him that is God. People ask, "Well, what part is *that*?" It's the Spirit. You always hear people say, "His spirits are low." It's a very true statement.

The atheist movement is growing. How do you perceive that?

It's just ignorance. It's a very pessimistic attitude. But in a lot of cases they're right, because the Spirit has many bodies, and only a few of the bodies really connect with the Spirit. It's for a good reason, too—because if we all knew that we were eternal, nothing would really get done. You don't do anybody any good sitting in a cave tripping off in the astral world. You're here on Earth; you can be there, too, but you've got to participate.

So the atheists have their place. Everybody has a place, and everybody has a job to do. When you get enlightened—if and when you become enlightened—it becomes a very lonely world, because you can't share this with everybody.

Stephen Hawking has said, "The whole history of science has been the gradual

realization that events do not happen in an arbitrary manner, but that they reflect a certain underlying order, which may or may not be divinely inspired." What do you think?

There's an old joke: A guy wants to know the meaning of life, so he sells everything he has, gives up his wife, his kids, his job. He travels across deserts and climbs mountains to find a hermit. Finally, he finds the guy and asks what the meaning of life is. The hermit looks at him and says, "Life is a fountain."

The guy says, "What? I did all this shit, came all this way, and you tell me life is a fucking fountain?"

And the hermit says, "Well, maybe life isn't a fountain."

How did you gain your sense of spirituality?

What happened to me—long before I took acid, and I had a great, great trip—was when I was eight years old, I went to a Bible camp.

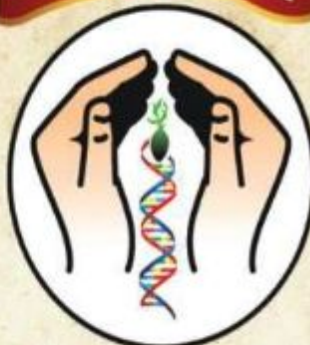
I had no idea about the Bible, but I went and got indoctrinated at a nice, pleasant Bible study group that taught me the story of Jesus and all of the biblical stories. They taught me how to pray, and that has stayed with me my whole life.

How do you pray?

Well, my praying evolved into meditation, but you can combine. The most important thing about praying is, don't ask for anything. You're talking to the entity that created you. He knows—or She knows—exactly what you need. So the only thing you really need is clarity. You need that consciousness. You need to lose all the garbage that's in your system, your *mental* system. You need to lose the resentments, all of the things that stop you: resentments, remorse. You want to pray to live in the present—just in the present. Live now, enjoy now, because when you live in the past, it's wasted energy. Because the past is

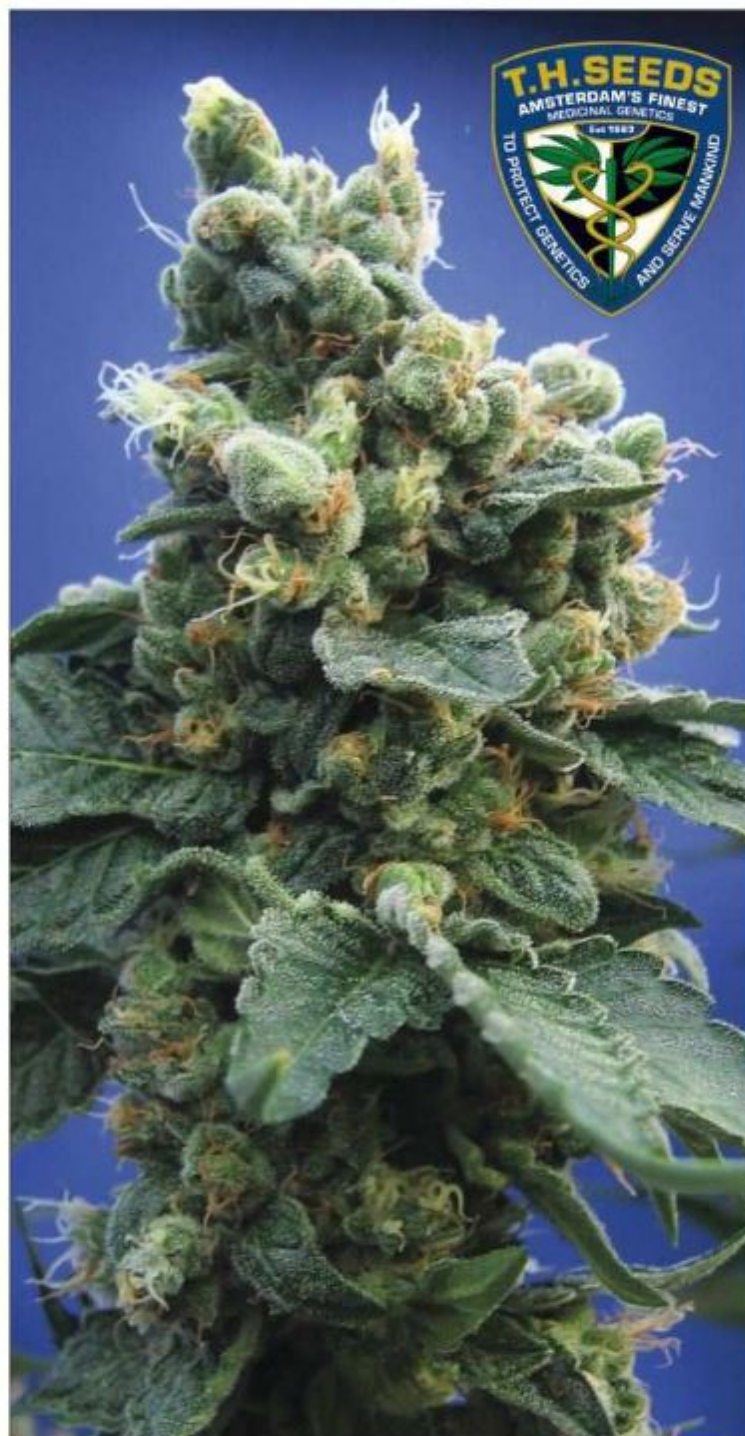
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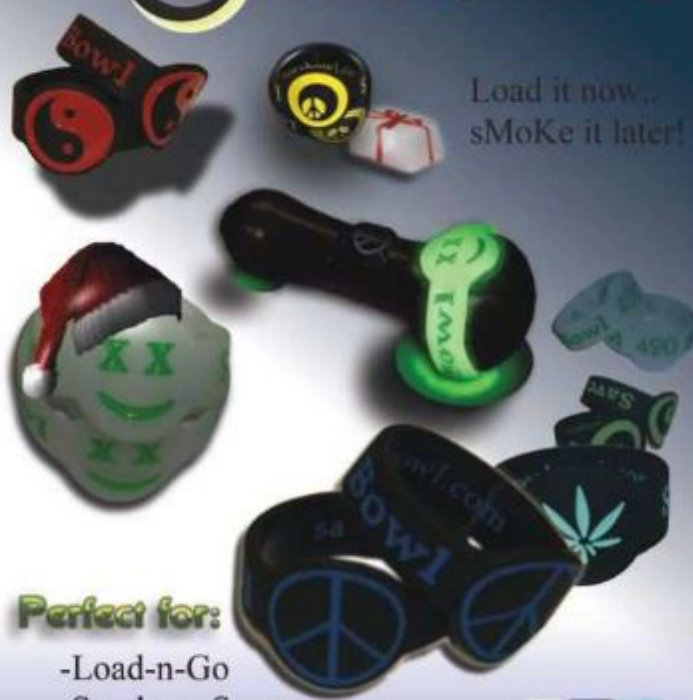
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gone forever; you'll never get the past again. And the future will never come; it will always be tomorrow. So tomorrow never comes, yesterday's gone forever, and the only thing you have is the present moment. And if you're totally in the present moment, you cannot be unhappy.

How do you handle the present?

I learned how to do this jumping-ahead thing. I spent a year in the dentist's chair, getting implants and all my teeth fixed, and as anybody knows, the dentist is a horrible experience. What I'd do is walk into the dentist's office and think, "I'm just gonna picture myself walking out of here. It's all done; it's all finished." Then, the next thing I know, I'm walking out. I did that when I went to jail, too: I visualized walking out.

I had an MRI. You gotta lie still with your arms above your head for 20 minutes. That's tough. You know what

I said? "I'm here; I'm going to meditate. I'm just going to meditate." I could feel the pain, but I drifted. I said, "Oh, okay—I'm just going to meditate. I know how to do this."

My first night in jail, I'm in a little bunk, surrounded—a guy right on top of me, a guy right beside me. Then I heard the door lock and I thought, "I got nine months of this." And I start panicking. Then, all of a sudden, a calmness came over me. It was the Spirit. The Spirit says, "Okay, you're here for a reason."

That's what I kept telling myself when I was standing in front of the judge. The only phrases that went through my head were: "Thy will be done. Everything happens for a reason."

Weren't you angry about going to prison?

Nah. I was actually laughing. The thing is, I could've gotten out of it. But they would have taken my pride;

"Live now, enjoy now, because when you live in the past, it's wasted energy."

they would have knocked me down. I would have sold out. Then you're their boy, and that's it. The reason I went to jail was because I was telling everybody that their laws are fucked, that there's nothing wrong with selling a bong—and if I gotta go to jail for that, hey, so be it. I knew what they were doing, but I knew there was cred to get. You get some credibility when you won't buy that shit.

How do you approach the future?

The only thing I really want to do is leave a legacy for my family. I want to write. I figure the only thing I can do by myself is write. I can't do

a movie by myself; I can't do comedy by myself. The only thing I can do alone is write.

As for the cancer, we're all computers: Some are more adept at using the buttons than the others, basically. We have the capacity and the ability to do everything that the healer would do. We have it! The only thing is, you have to more or less be as pure as they are. You can't have any carnal kind of thoughts. You have to accept the universe as it really is. You can't be hypnotized by greed, or want, or lack, or envy. You have to come to the realization that you are eternal: You are *eternal spirit*. And then you have to realize that the body is our vehicle. It's like our car.

I personally bring it on myself that I can create awareness that cannabis is a medicine. I don't know how it works, but it *is* a medicine. It's a healing medicine—and if I can get that out there, if nothing else, then I've done my job. ✨

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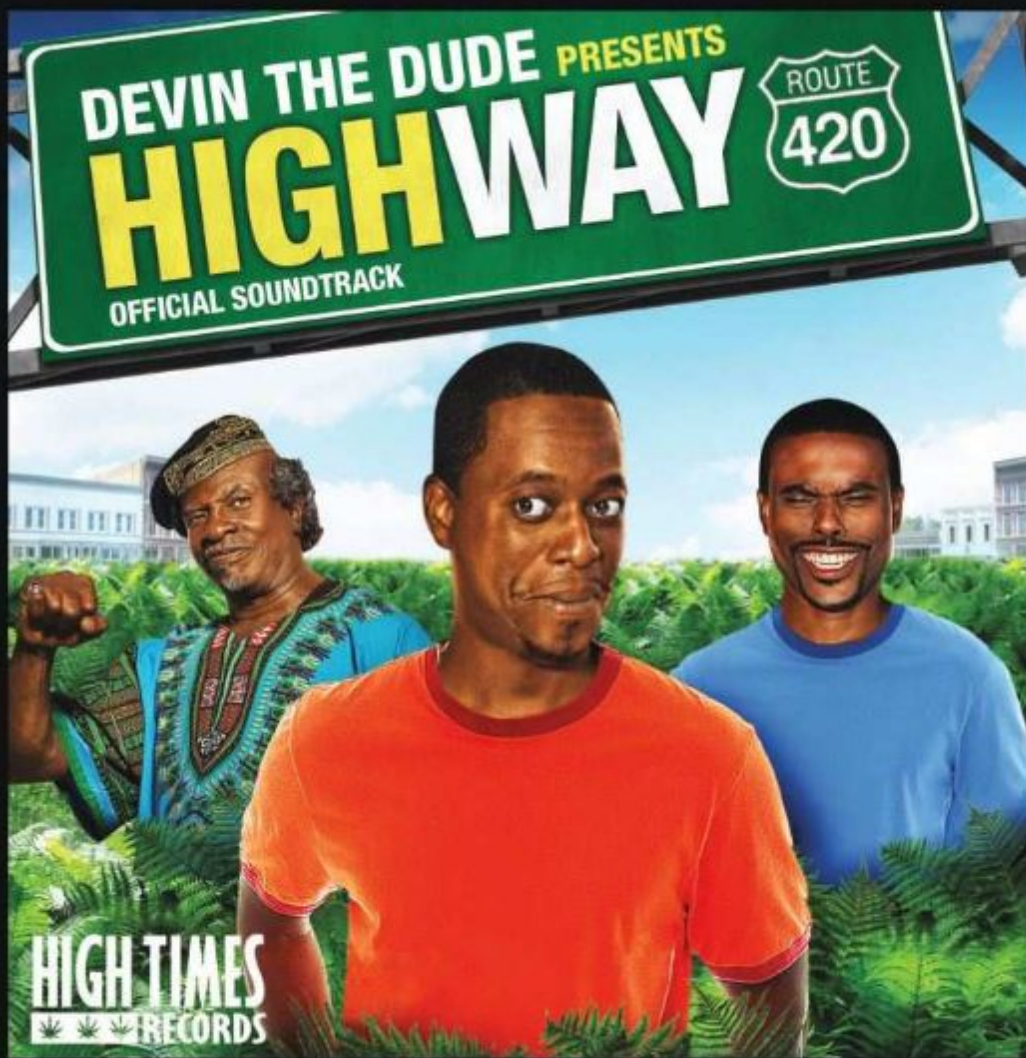
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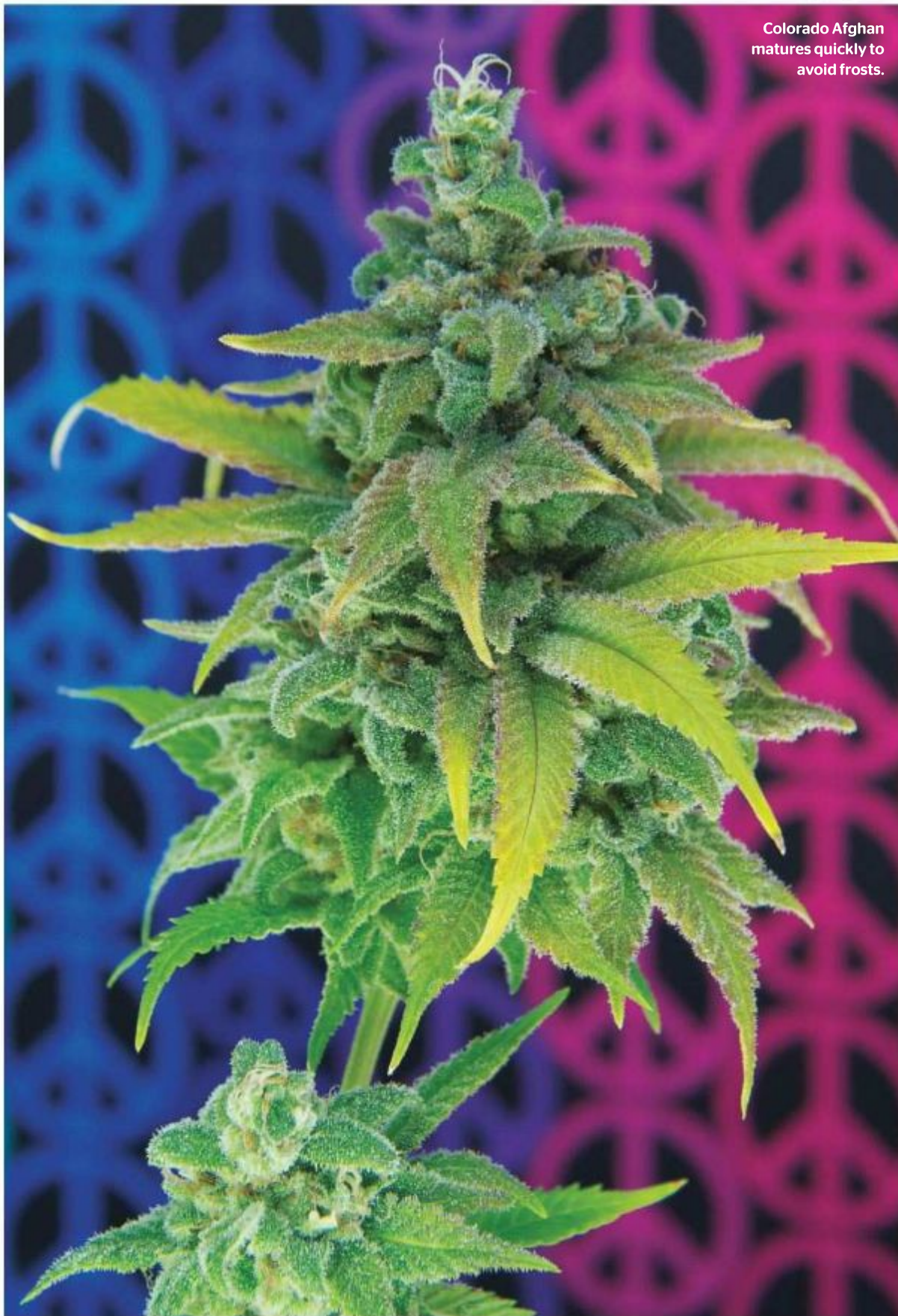
SUBJECT: **Fast-Finishing**

FROM: **Doug**

🌿 I live in Northern Michigan, and I'm having trouble finding a strain that will finish in early September and handle the cold weather and frost. So far, we've had three frost nights and a very hard freeze. The plants I have now took a very hard hit.

Dear Doug,
The fastest-finishing strains are *indicas* or *indica*-dominant varieties, so consider that your keyword when searching for what to grow. These will typically finish in the timeframe you've specified, so look for strains such as Afghani, Kush and Hash Plant, and avoid anything with Haze or Thai in the name. Shoot for pot varieties that flower in 60 days or less.

You may also want to consider autoflowering strains, because you can finish them whenever you need to: They flower under any kind of light, so you can time them to finish in early September or even sooner. This can help you beat the frost as well as the police and thieves that plague our hobby.



Colorado Afghan matures quickly to avoid frosts.

Danko Tip: Using plant containers on wheels or casters makes it much easier to move them around the growroom than those sitting flat on the floor.



Sgt. Robert F. Merrill
(1949-1970)

SUBJECT: **Toker Tribute**

FROM: **Steve Merrill**

🌱 Danny, here's a photo of my brother, Sgt. Robert F. Merrill (1949-1970), in Vietnam before he was killed. Notice he has David Peel's "Have a Marijuana" record with him. He was with the 259th Transportation Unit, S&S (supply and service company) at FSB Bearcat, near Bien Hoa, when he was killed. I was 14 years old at the time, and they came to my class in Lunenburg, MA, and dragged me out, not telling me anything; then my aunt came and drove me home. First was the telegram; then two guys in an unmarked Ford drove up and told us Bob was killed on 4/11. He had a low lottery number, so he enlisted, since they said you were treated better than draftees. I didn't attend the funeral, as I had threatened harm to the color guard and still have a low view of all things military; ask anyone who was "in" and they'll tell you how their experiences ranged from SNAFU (Situation Normal: All Fucked Up) to FUBAR (Fucked Up Beyond All Recognition). It took me 40 years to finally read his letters, and they could just as easily have come from Iraq or Afghanistan with a small change of date. Anyway, as you can see, he was a fan of your magazine's subject matter, and I'd be honored if you could run this photo in the magazine somewhere. Thanks!

Dear Steve,
Sorry for your loss, and thanks for

sending us the photo of your brother. From the looks of it, he was a hip dude. It's such a shame that we keep losing good people to these stupid wars.

SUBJECT: **Regular Flushing**

FROM: **Seymour 2007**

🌱 Hey, Dan! I'm a huge fan of the Free Weed podcast and was looking for some help. I grow in a mixture of coco and perlite, but I've heard so many different opinions about flushing every four weeks to remove salt buildups versus waiting for one big flush at the end. What's your opinion on this? I'm eternally grateful for the manner in which you represent and guide us all.

Dear Seymour,
Thanks for your kind words! I love doing the show and helping people to grow better pot, and hearing from growers like you gives me a special feeling. As for flushing your coco and perlite mix, my feeling is that you can never really flush too many times (so long as you replenish the nutrients after every flushing session but the last). Coco growers in particular have a need to flush out their mediums more frequently, since they tend to experience salt buildups a bit more.

Flushing is simply defined as using plain water to leach out the excess nutrients from your grow medium. Typically, you'll need to flush using up to five times as much water as the volume

of your container (meaning, for example, that a 5-gallon container would be flushed with 25 gallons of plain water), unless you're treating a severe case of over-fertilization. The best way to know if your flush was successful is to test the level of total dissolved solids in the water that flows out of the bottom of your containers using a ppm (parts per million) meter. When the ppm level of the outgoing water is the same as (or close to) the ppm of the plain water you're adding, you'll know that the medium has been well leached, meaning you can add more fresh nutrient solution after the medium has a chance to sufficiently dry out.

SUBJECT: **Web Slingers**

FROM: **Mite Face Killah**

🌱 Danny, I need help fast! Last time I went into my growroom, I noticed what look like spiderwebs all over the tops of all my plants—plus there's tiny black and red bugs running around everywhere, and I don't know what to do. Is it too late, or can I get rid of these pests? I think they are spider mites, and I fear that they're eating my plants to death!

Dear Mite,
You do have a severe infestation of spider mites. This couldn't have happened overnight, so I'm guessing you don't examine your plants very often. Mites are easier to deal with when you diagnose the problem early, but now you've let things get completely out of hand. Once there is webbing all over your plant tops, it's an indication that there are several generations of mites and they're laying eggs at an alarming rate. You're right to fear that they're eating your plants, since your plants are their primary source of food and water.

Once an infestation gets this far, it's almost impossible to rid the room of mites. I'm afraid you'll have to give up, kill your plants and start over. Use a bleach-and-water solution and a mop to generously swab down every surface in your growroom (including the floor, the walls and even the ceiling). This will be a major first step in getting rid of your mite infestation, but inevitably some will survive. A bug bomb at this time (though not when the plants are present) wouldn't hurt in beating them back either.

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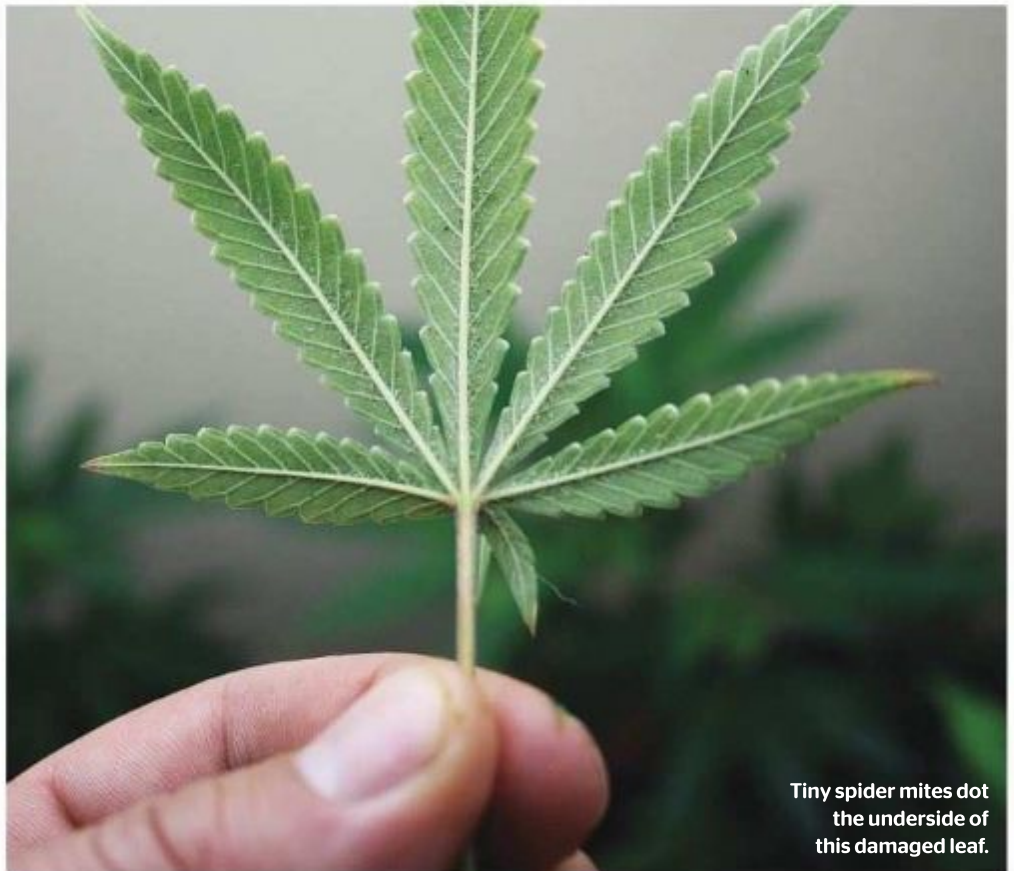
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Danko Tip: Remove yellow and dying leaves before they become a breeding ground for pests or mold.



Tiny spider mites dot the underside of this damaged leaf.

The truth is that you let this problem go too far because you didn't check your plants often or thoroughly enough. Next time, inspect your leaves (including their undersides) for any signs of mites. If the tops of your leaves have small white or yellow dots, this is a sure sign of mites, and catching them before they're able to create elaborate web systems is your only hope of surviving their attack.

SUBJECT: **Pairing Plants**

FROM: **CBlack**

Hi, Danny! I'm currently using a hybrid deep-water culture (DWC) and pump system. I built the system out of 56-gal-lon Rubbermaid storage tubs, cutting six baskets into the top of each tub, and then using a pump with a six-way splitter and an air stone to circulate the 15 gallons of water and Botanicare nutrient solution for each tub (holding six plants apiece). I'm changing the water and nutrients on two-week cycles.

My Larry OG stretches like crazy—plus the bugs love it and it isn't much of a yielder—but I love the strain so much that I'm willing to put up with these problems. I built a trellis out of PVC pipe and plastic netting. It sits around and on top of the rim of each tub supporting and spreading the

plants into approximately 3' x 3.5' canopies for each tub. My flower space fits three of these tubs under two 600-watt lights, and I use AC to reg the temp at 75°F.

The Larry takes approximately 75 days to finish, so with three spaces I am chopping about every 25 to 30 days. I'm thinking of pairing this with another strain to mix it up a bit, but I want their schedules to be similar. From my limited research, I'm thinking of Super Lemon Haze. Is this a good choice to pair with the Larry? I love that sweet, fruity flavor of the Lemon Haze, but I don't want a separate set of problems for each strain. Are these similar strains to cultivate? Thanks!

Dear CBlack,
Sounds like you have a fairly *sativa*-dominant phenotype of the Larry OG, so the Super Lemon Haze you mentioned should pair up nicely with it. Thanks to her 10-week flowering time, she should finish right around the same time as your Larry. There's a bunch of other *sativa*-dominant strains you could grow as well, such as Buddha's Sister, Jack Herer and even a shorter 10-week pheno of Kali Mist (some KM phenos can flower for up to 13 weeks). The most important thing is to match up the flowering times and stretching tendencies as closely as you can.

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Danko Tip: Put a heating mat under (and a clear dome over) your cloning tray for better rooting percentages.



A trio of Colorado Afghan tops.

SUBJECT: **The Name Game**

FROM: **Greeneggz**

🌱 “Danny Danko” and “Kyle Kushman”? Are those your real last names, or did you change them thanks to your career field?

Dear Greeneggz,

They are indeed noms de plume (pen names)—or, even better, noms de guerre (war names), as my *High Times* colleague, associate publisher Rick Cusick, would say. When I got started in this business, few writers used their real names to help teach others how to grow pot. Hopefully, one day we can use our given names (and mine isn't that hard to figure out anyway). But what started out as a lark grew into something bigger, and now this is the name most people know me by. I should also say that at this point, it's more of a fun thing than a personal-protection thing.

SUBJECT: **Cloning Autoflowering Plants**

FROM: **Jon Y.**

🌱 I'd like to start off by saying that I love your show and am very thankful for all the priceless info you're providing. I'm a longtime lover of weed, but I've only been learning to grow for the last year or so. Is it possible to clone an autoflowering strain? Would the clone's “clock” reset, so to speak, or would it still be on the mother's time?

Dear Jon,

I don't recommend cloning autoflowering plants, since they will behave the same way as their moms—meaning that shortly after they root, they'll begin to flower regardless of the light cycle. This means you'll wind up with tiny, popsicle-sized plants with small flowers that won't produce much more than an eighth of an ounce (if that).

With autoflowering plants, the advantage is that they'll finish in 60 to 90 days from planting. But it's impossible to keep an autoflowering mother plant, because she'll flower no matter what you do. Stick with seeds if you plan to go the autoflowering route—or, better yet, get some regular seeds, grow them out and make yourself a mother plant from the best female, then keep her in the vegetative stage. You can take multiple cuttings anytime you want without having to worry about unwanted flowering. 🌿

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Don't people ever lie about their marijuana use on surveys?

Mike H.

Hi Mike,
You'll be stunned to learn that people *do* lie. Researchers in Spain compared urine screens to self-reporting and found that approximately 10 percent of those who tested positive said they hadn't used. This kind of fibbing does mess up research, but it's not a huge effect. And with hard drugs, the reports are often worse: More people lie about cocaine use, for example.



The love drug.

Marijuana doesn't make anyone lose a condom, diminish the motivation to use it or any other such nonsense.

Are the new saliva tests for THC any good?

Dan F.

Hi Dan,
Not really. A new study examined two of them closely. One test performed okay but produced many false negatives—it essentially missed folks who *had* smoked recently by indicating they hadn't—while the other test made a ton of errors. Of course, the amount of THC in your saliva has nothing to do with how well you'll perform most tasks anyway. It might say something about your favorite way to write a poem or compose a song, but it won't say whether you're able to drive a car or operate machinery.

cannabis users were more likely to have unsafe sex. However, when you look closely at the data, it becomes clear that the results depend not on the pot use, but on the person.

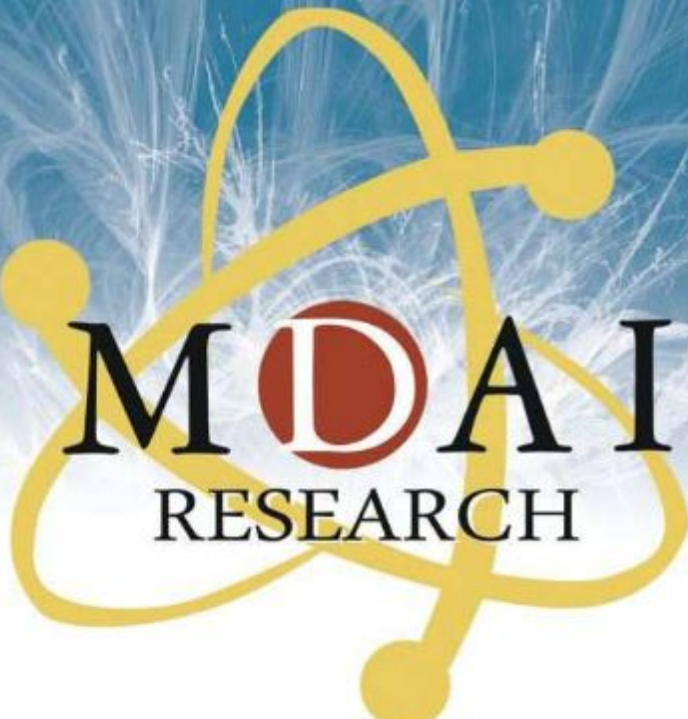
A subset of people who like using cannabis also seem to like having unsafe sex. But only 5 percent of the sample got high before sex, and there was no link between the frequency of cannabis use and unsafe sexual practices. Marijuana intoxication doesn't make anyone lose a condom, diminish the motivation to use it or any other such nonsense. And if you're too high to put one on, you're probably too high to get it on. ✨

Does marijuana make people less likely to have safe sex?

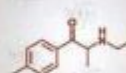
Rich H.

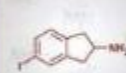
Hi Rich,
In a word, no. One recent Swiss study did suggest that

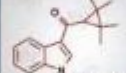
Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany and the author of Understanding Marijuana and The Parents' Guide to Marijuana.



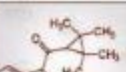
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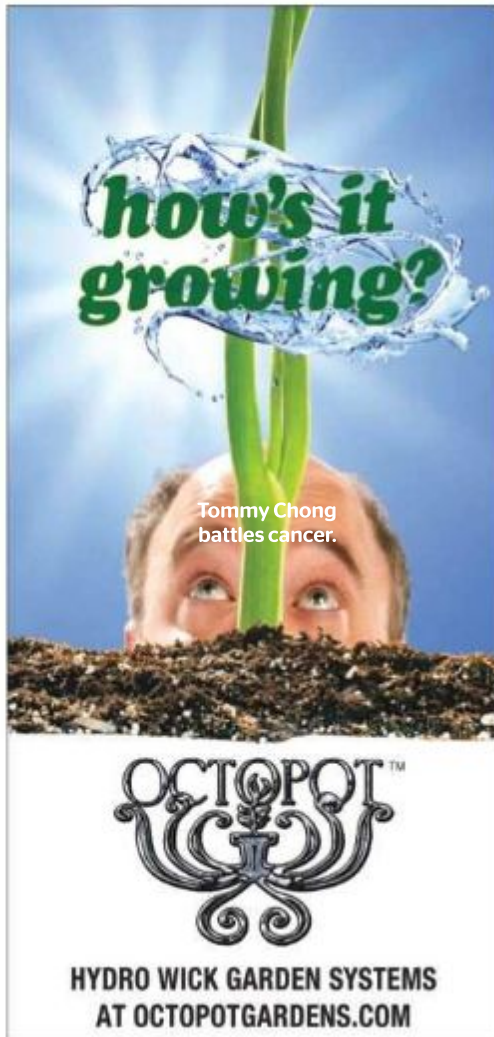
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High Times' Greatest Hits

Continuing Tom Forcade's spiritual legacy with an online archive.

About 20 years ago, I traveled to Phoenix, AZ, to examine the archives of *High Times* founder Tom Forcade. Among his papers was a poem written under the influence of LSD. It was my first real glimpse into the mind of one of the greatest revolutionaries to emerge from the psychedelic enlightenment that took hold of this nation in the 1960s, and it left no doubt in my mind that Tom viewed himself first and foremost as a spiritual revolutionary leading a spiritual enlightenment.

Hopefully, like a giant comet returning to earth, this enlightenment will enjoy a rebirth over the next decade, as we celebrate the 50th anniversaries of the counterculture's many milestones, from the Merry Pranksters' "magic bus" ride to the first Woodstock festival to the Waldos' creation of 420—a voyage of rediscovery that will also include the founding of *High Times*.

Some people make the mistake of thinking that the counterculture is all about pot. It's not. It's about nonviolence, and pot just happens to be our sacrament because it's the best medicine for extinguishing rage, which is the opposite of enlightenment. And if there's anything this country needs right now, it's a return to that spirit of nonviolence that permeated the country throughout the '60s. Mainstream culture is drenched in violence, and the sad results of that approach to life are painfully obvious to us all. Celebrating the return of a peaceful culture that once seemed poised to sweep the nation is certainly a noble cause. Connecting the youth of today with those vibrations is one of my most important missions.

Last year, I started a personal ebook site on *smashwords.com* because I'd heard good things about this startup. I was so impressed with the site, in fact, that this year I'm launching an official *High Times* ebook site that will

eventually contain all of our greatest hits from the past 50 years. Some of these will be individual articles; others will be compilations based on an author or theme. Foremost in my mind is creating a Tom Forcade collection that will include everything Tom ever wrote, including his book *The Caravan of Love and Money*, a much-underappreciated counterculture classic that sells for over \$100 on Amazon. I'm also going to offer exclusive video from my extensive archives inside these ebooks, and many will include free feature-length documentaries in my inimitable style.

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creating a large body of work that can be easily distributed through all the available digital formats. I'm really interested to know if you have any suggestions for compilations or individual articles that you'd like to see posted soon as ebooks. Did you have a favorite story in some issue of *High Times* that you've lost long ago and would like to see resurrected? Just let me know and I'll put it on my to-do list. You can send me suggestions via Twitter, Facebook or WordPress; my ID on all three is *stevenhager420*. Or you can email me at *shager@hightimes.com*.

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Thinking Inside The Box

A cannabis craftsman presents his favorite columnist with some gifts.

There's no question that being a pot star has its advantages, one of which is getting cool stuff for free. Concert tickets, backstage passes, CDs, pipes and even weed are all frequently offered to *High Times* celebs like Danny Danko, Nico Escondido and myself, by publicists, promoters, growers and fans. Once in a while though, one of our readers will go above and beyond, giving us something so unique and personal that it's more than just the usual swag. Such was the case in Seattle when I met Myo, a.k.a. Mr. Keifbox.

A self-taught journeyman carpenter from Tacoma, WA, Myron "Myo" Connery started making keif boxes in 2008 as a way to earn some extra income after being laid off due to the recession. "I used to make pipes and gift them to people here and there," he says. "When a friend told me

I should start making keif boxes, I was like, 'What the hell is a keif box?' As soon as he told me about it, I knew this was going to be a great thing. I could customize and personalize boxes for people and stores This was something no one else was doing."

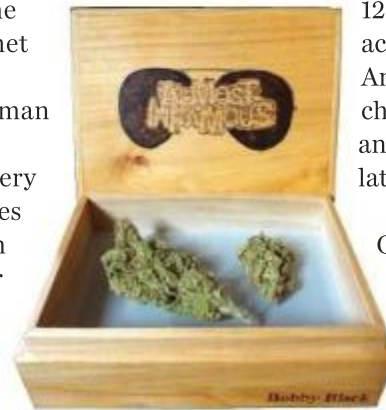
For Myo, making keif boxes is a family affair. Aside from helping put bread on the table, the work is also an homage to his father, whom he lost to cancer six years ago. "My dad always wanted to have a wood shop," Myo says. "When he died, he gave me the tools he'd collected over the years, so I'm kind of doing this as a tribute to him ... to try to realize his dream, which we now both have."

Each box begins as rough-cut lumber from a local sawmill, which Myo cuts, sands and assembles. Then he uses a hand-burning technique known as pyrography to essentially brand different words or designs onto the box based on what the customer wants. For more complicated imagery, he'll encase a photo or print under a sheet of glass. He's done

everything from company, band and team logos to fine art and stoner celebrity portraits—courtesy of an ongoing collaboration with noted roach-paper artist Cliff Maynard (whom we'll be featuring in an upcoming issue). It takes Myo about two days to complete each box, which he then sells for \$45 to \$90. For his favorite pot personalities, however, he'll sometimes offer the boxes as gifts. So far, he's given a personalized box to Lou Dogg from the Kottonmouth Kings; a 12" x

12" box to medical marijuana activist Elvy Musika; a 20th Anniversary Seattle Hempfest chest to Vivian McPeak; and an American eagle box to the late, great Jack Herer.

"I gave it to him at the Olympia Hempfest a week before he had his heart attack," Myo recalls. "Little did I know it would be the last time I would ever have the chance to give something back to such a great man."



The one-of-a-kind Almost Infamous keif box.

When Mr. Keifbox found out I was coming to Seattle for our very first Medical Cannabis Cup there, he saw it as his opportunity to add me to that prestigious list. Upon arriving at our event, Myo presented me with not one but two custom keif boxes: the first, a gift to my wife April and me for our first anniversary, featuring one of our wedding photos under glass in the tray and a lovely inscription inside the lid; the second, an artfully rendered version of my "Almost Infamous" aviator-shade logo on the top and my name inscribed along the side. The former is now the centerpiece on our coffee table at home, while the latter is on prominent display in my office. I'm proud to own these boxes—not just because they're cool and well-constructed products, but because they're made with love by a true artisan. Thanks, Myo ... and keep up the good work. ✨

To see more of Myo's work or to place an order, go to shop.mrkeifboxwoodworking.net.



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Narc-Speak

The language of the federal government has changed, but not its anti-cannabis policies.

Allen St. Pierre is the executive director of NORML. Visit norml.org.

Sometimes a subtle change in language can have profound effects. Sometimes language is changed to inform, other times to mislead. So when the federal government—which has fought to maintain cannabis prohibition for over eight decades—recently started to replace its old argument (“There is no such thing as so-called ‘medical’ marijuana”) with a new one (“You don’t smoke medicine”), was it a sign that the Feds have finally become willing to acknowledge, however grudgingly, the safety and efficacy of cannabis as a medicine? Or are they simply setting up cannabis consumers for the “second phase” of prohibition?

It’s a question that occurred to me when viewing the federal government’s anti-drug websites and brochures, which have recently been scrubbed of their long-held pronouncements against medical cannabis in favor of a new one that seems to invite another 75 years of government prohibition. We should be wary of this new phase, one in which the Feds will allow for patented, FDA-approved cannabinoid medicines available by prescription, while simultaneously doubling down on enhanced criminal and civil penalties for cannabis consumers in general—specifically targeting millions of cultivators, sellers, and patients who prefer to smoke or ingest edibles. Such a change tacitly opens the door for



the drug companies to produce a wide array of patented cannabinoid pharmaceuticals—while, amazingly, the federal government still labels the cultivators, sellers and consumers of cannabis as “criminals.”

Predicting this sad scenario particularly makes sense when one observes that the only current political holdover from the Bush era serving in the Obama

administration (aside from FBI director Robert Mueller) is Michele Leonhart, head of the DEA. Combine this fact with Leonhart’s ongoing relationship with former Office of National Drug Control Policy deputy administrator Dr. Andrea Barthwell, now one of the principal lobbyists for GW Pharmaceuticals, the company producing the cannabinoid-based pharmaceutical Sativex. Then throw in the federal government’s own pursuit of proprietary patents for select cannabinoids, and the future looks cloudy for cannabis consumers, the free market and personal liberty.

While the Feds, in some respects, have cried “Uncle!” and seemed to scuttle their

reprehensible and scientifically indefensible position on the remarkable therapeutic qualities of cannabis, the actions of the Obama administration—including orchestrating over 200 SWAT-like raids on dispensaries in California, Colorado, Montana and Washington, all states with medical marijuana laws—speak far louder than any recently revised narc-speak. Visit norml.org. 🌿

FREEDOM FIGHTER

by Erik Altieri, NORML communications coordinator

CASPER, THE FRIENDLY HOST

Casper Leitch celebrates two decades of cannabis activism.

Casper Leitch’s entry into the cannabis movement occurred in 1990, when he was hired by the Hemperor himself, the late Jack Herer, to run his office and head up Help End Marijuana Prohibition. While working with HEMP, Casper launched a public-access cable TV series titled *Time 4*

Hemp, the first series in the history of broadcasting to focus strictly on the topic of cannabis. When the show first aired in 1991, it was shown in 22 cities across 19 states—the first community cable series ever to debut in so many areas at once. In its first three weeks, *Time 4 Hemp* also became the first community cable program to go both national and international.

The show’s website went live in



1999 and was one of the first to offer free audio and video downloads on cannabis-related topics. It remains an excellent reference source thanks to its vast archive of interviews.

Casper resides in Portland, OR, and worked tirelessly on the campaign to pass Measure 80, the state’s bid to legalize and regulate cannabis.

Upon the advice of the revered cannabis activist Gatewood Galbraith,

who passed away earlier this year, Casper took *Time 4 Hemp* into the podcast format in 2007. Over a very short period of time, the show drew a large number of faithful listeners—so many that by 2009, American Freedom Radio (americanfreedomradio.com) approached Leitch with the idea of doing a live radio show to air not only on the Internet, but on AM/FM stations as well. The show now airs Mondays through Fridays from 10 to 11 a.m. (PST).

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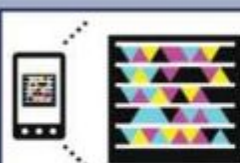
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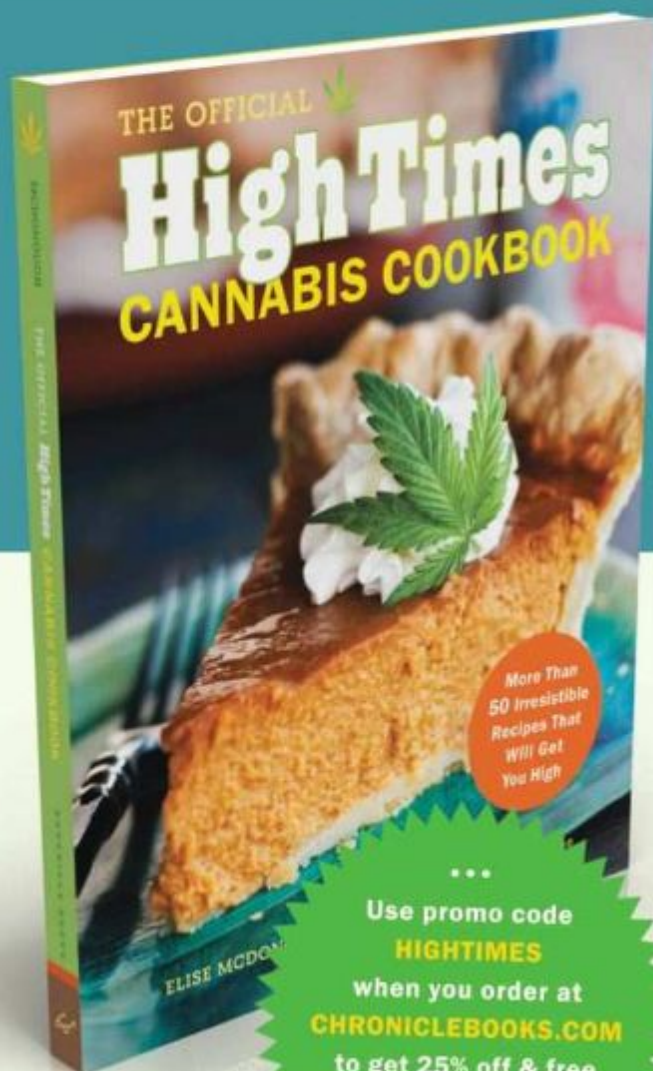
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FLOWER OF THE MONTH

Jam On It



I love to get toasted with some Jazzberry Jam from Cannaventure Seeds. Super-dense, fuchsia-colored buds with bright green leaves make for amazing bag appeal, plus it smells like fresh sour berries. This plant makes me drool every time ... in more ways than one! *Dr. GVZ*



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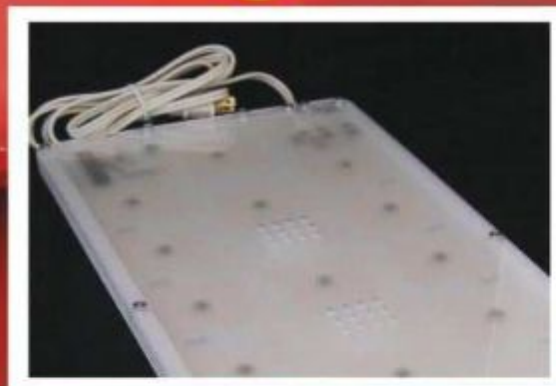
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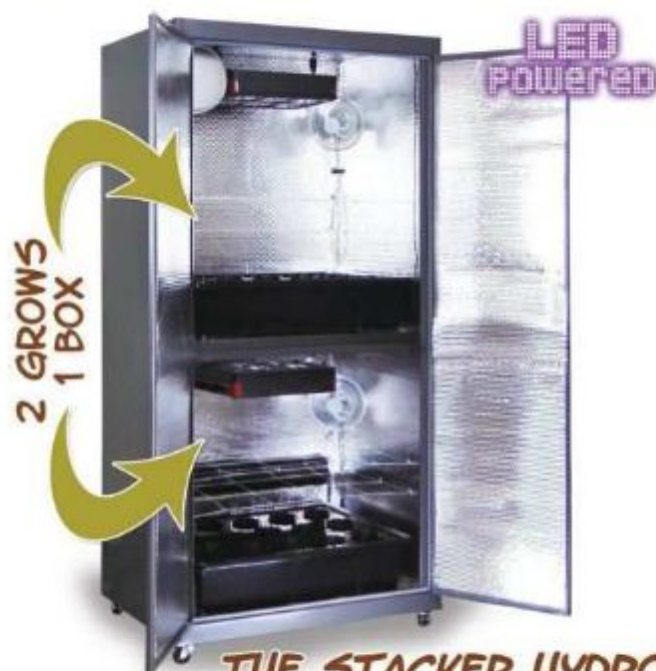


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CLOSE-UP OF THE MONTH

We Live in a Jungle

You guys see Bigfoot chillin' in the background? *Elias Vega Photography, Reno, NV*



HARVEST OF THE MONTH

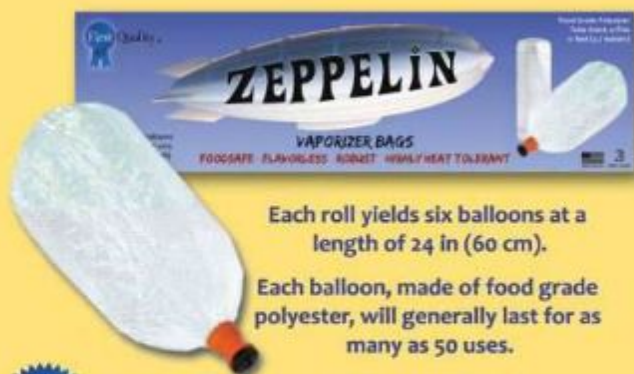
Colorado Skyline

Lovin' y'all from the Rockies, and here's how we do it. These sticky ladies are ISS (Island Sweet Skunk), Romulan (Cherry Pop-Tart) and Lemon G-13, all greenhouse-grown. I use only Ocean Forest Soil and Age Old Organics. I have the best in my town, and that's for real. Peace, love and forever free may we always be. *Travis D.*

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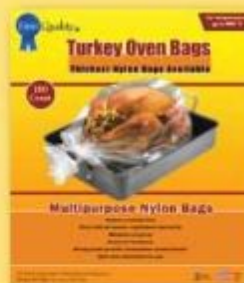
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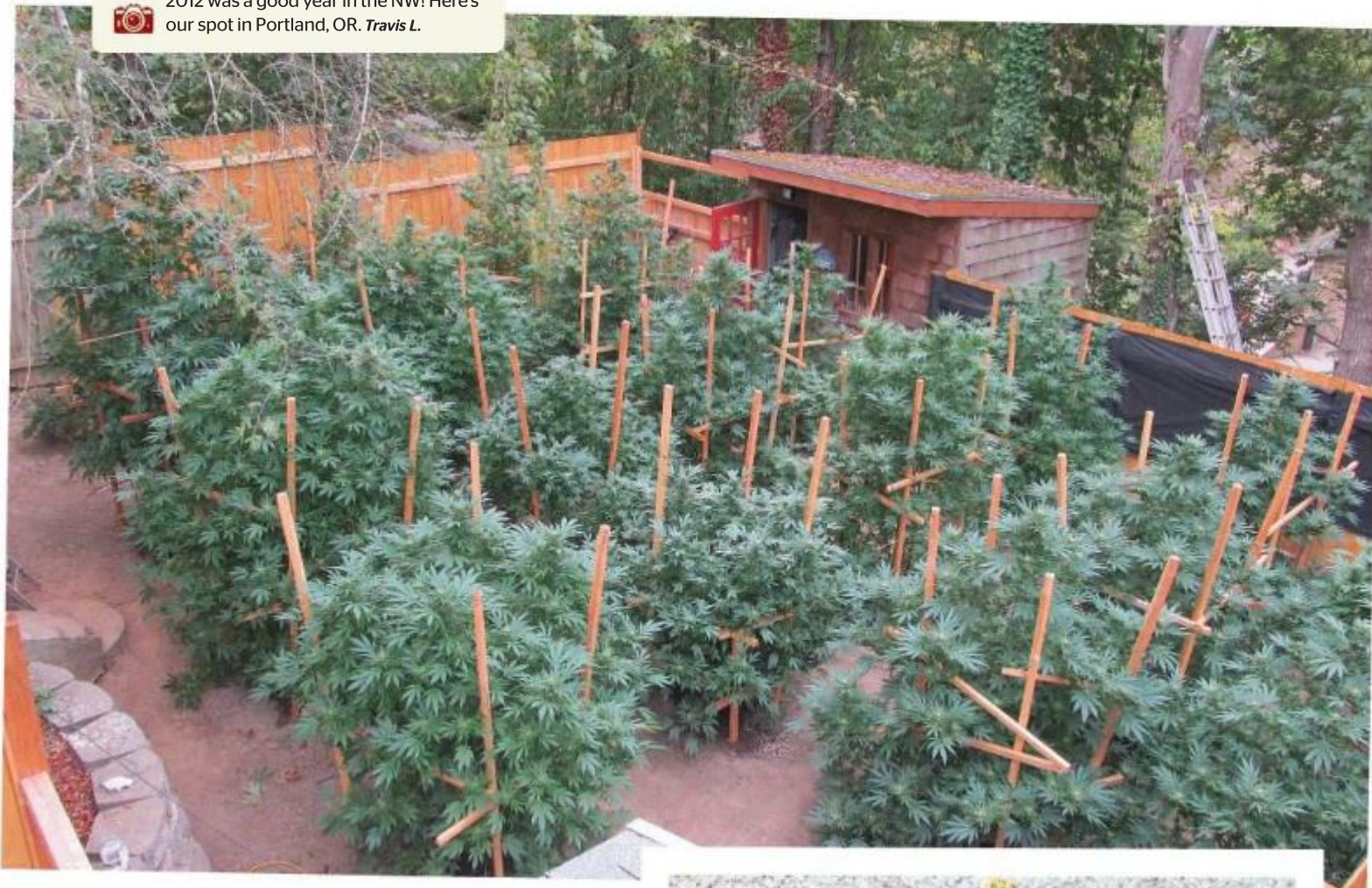
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GARDEN OF THE MONTH

Welcome to Potland



2012 was a good year in the NW! Here's our spot in Portland, OR. *Travis L.*

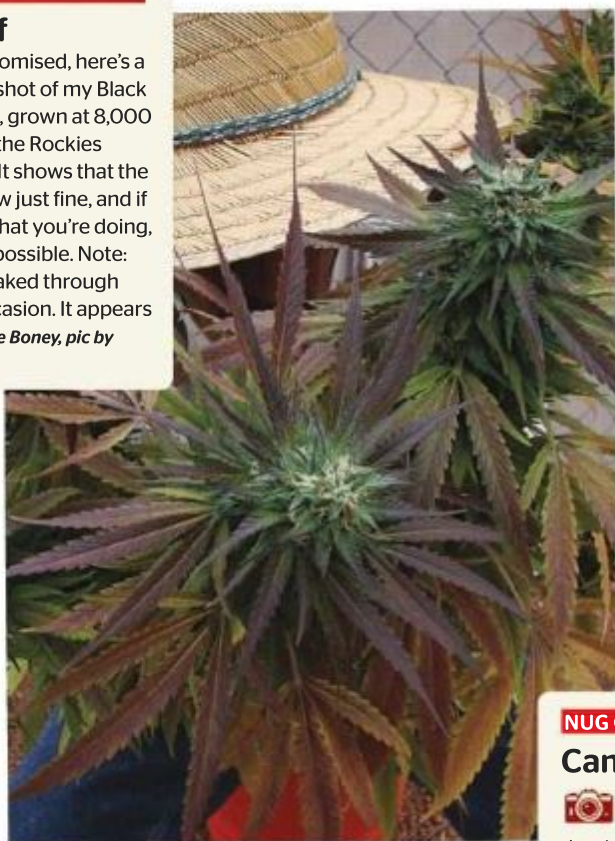


GROWER OF THE MONTH

Hats Off



As promised, here's a cool shot of my Black Bubba Kush, grown at 8,000 feet here in the Rockies once again. It shows that the Rockies grow just fine, and if you know what you're doing, anything is possible. Note: We dance naked through them on occasion. It appears to help! *Uncle Boney, pic by Shitzoo*

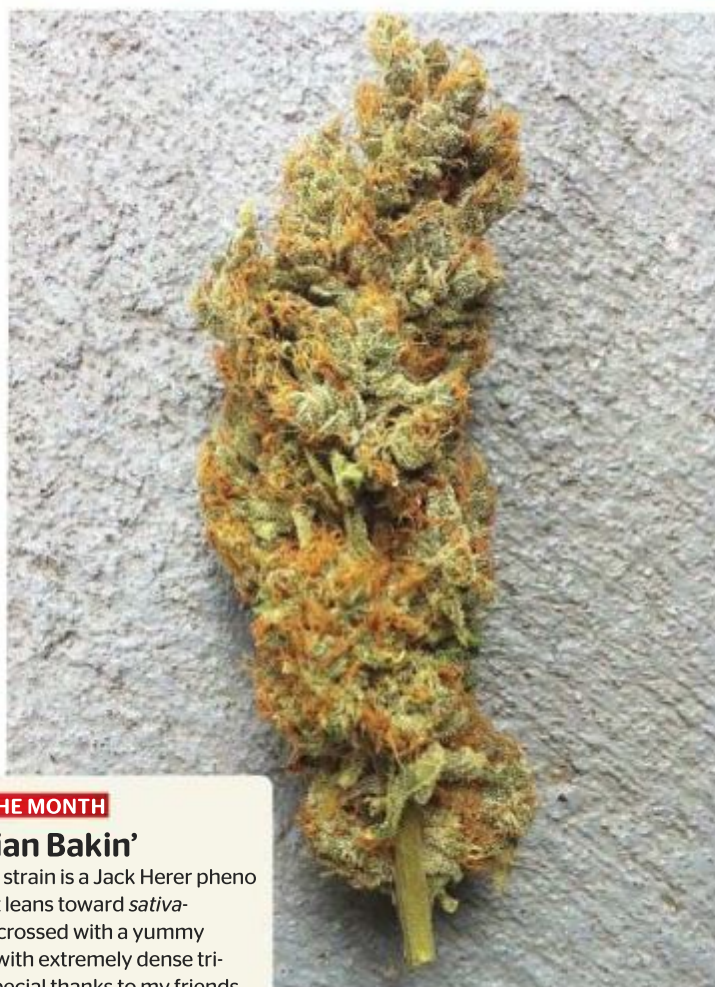


NUG OF THE MONTH

Canadian Bakin'



The strain is a Jack Herer pheno that leans toward *sativa*-dominant, crossed with a yummy Tahoe OG with extremely dense trichomes. Special thanks to my friends at the local grow stores for all their help! *KD*





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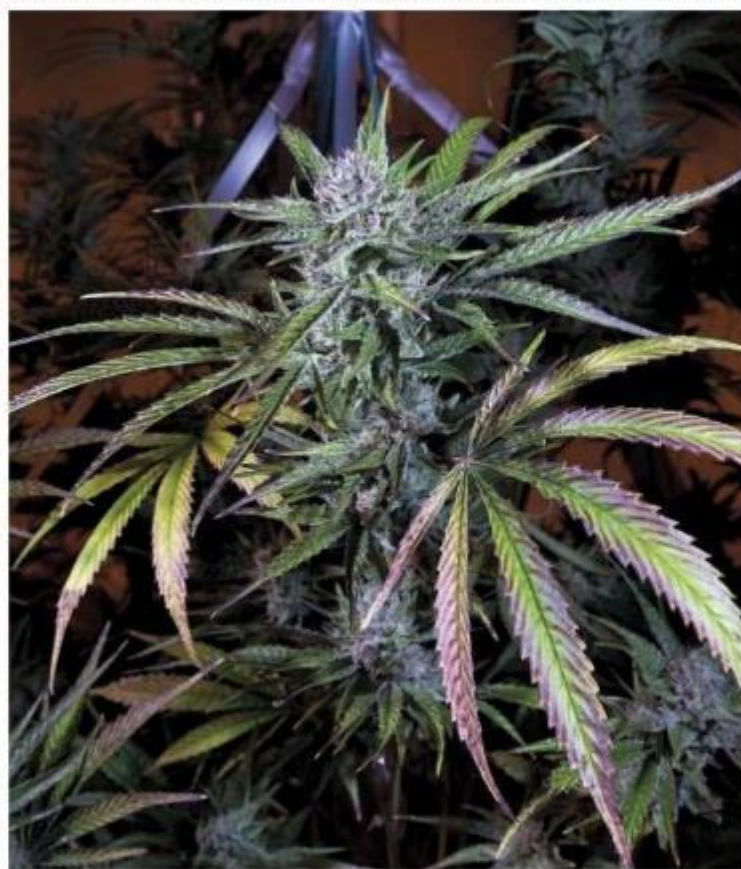





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MARCH 2013**HIGH TIMES**

• The History of Haze

Senior cultivation editor Danny Danko explores one of our most cherished strains—Haze! As a bonus, Danny presents his top 10 Haze strains of all time.

• The Marijuana Marketplace

Once again, tons of outdoor weed were harvested nationwide during the autumn months. So what's the marketplace like? Editorial director Dan Skye checks in with producers and buyers to find out.

• Pot & the NFL

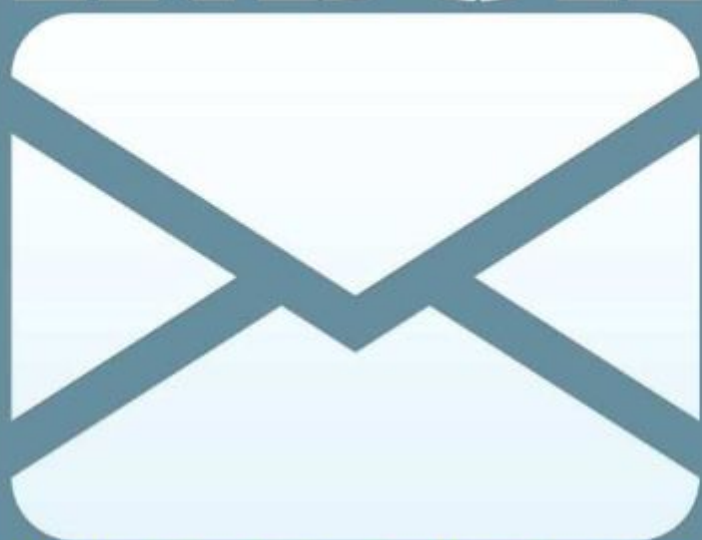
On the eve of the Super Bowl, we examine America's obsession with professional football and peek inside the drug-saturated locker rooms that the players inhabit.

• A Drug War out of Control

The House I Live In, by acclaimed documentary film director Eugene Jarecki, is an intimate look at the failed anti-drug policies that have created a prison-industrial complex and cost Americans more than \$1 trillion. Jarecki sits down for a sobering conversation.

• Buds in a Bunker

Canadian cannabis cultivation correspondent Erik Biksa travels literally underground to visit a massive, federally licensed growing facility that produces pot for the patients of the Great White North.

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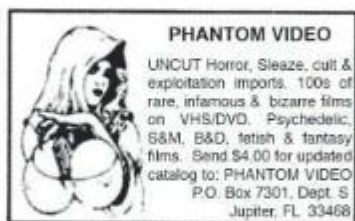
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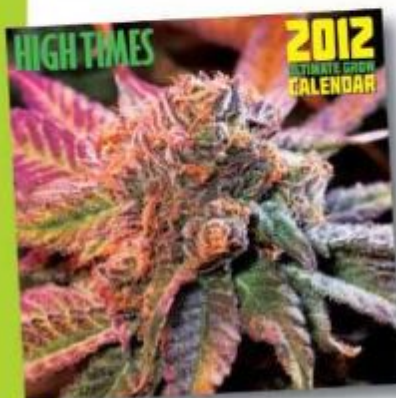


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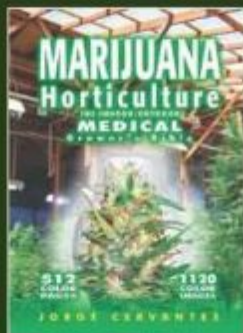


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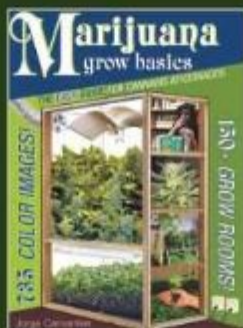
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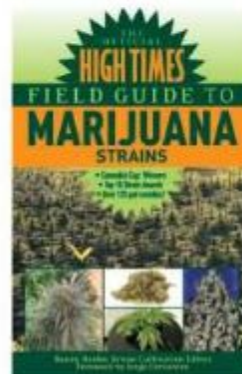


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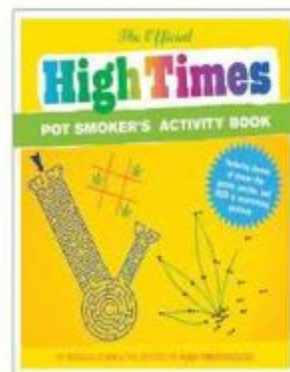
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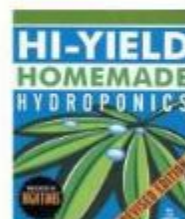
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25 **Pot terminology defined:**
INDICA - What to smoke before playing Xbox
SATIVA - What to smoke before playing Frisbee Golf

26 **Get Creative - BUILD YOUR OWN BONG!**

27 **COLORADO'S OWN Mason Tvert**
-Hrs 2012 FREEDOM FIGHTER of the year!

28 **For the Bonghitters**
there's no such thing as an off-season
-Wernie Wooley!

29 **Yabba Dab-a-do!**

30 **Doug Benson**

31 **"This guitar is gonna Fuck Your Face 'cause it knows how to scream!"**

32 **SPEED SAVES LIVES!**

33 **FIRE DEA**
Administrator Michele Leonhart

34  **Down the PSYCHEDELIC Highway**
J. Smith 2012

35 **No one throws a PROTESTIVAL like Vivian McPeak**

36  **HOME GROWN**

37 **Royal Family Ball**

38 **LAND OF THE free.**
J.K.

39 **Prankdab.com**
For all your oil porn needs

40 **SMOKE 2 JOINTS @ 8:40**

What would you like to see on the Pot 40? Write your ideas on this ballot and mail to:

HIGH TIMES

Pot 40—16th Floor
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CELEBRATE ALL WEEKEND LONG WITH MUSIC, PARTIES, EXPO, ACTIVISM, SEMINARS AND MORE!

HIGH TIMES

PRESENTS

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- BURMESE - \$60
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- INDOOR MIX - \$50

OUTDOOR

- BC PINEWARP - \$75
- OUTDOOR MIX - \$50
- TEXADA TIMEWARP - \$75

FEMINIZED

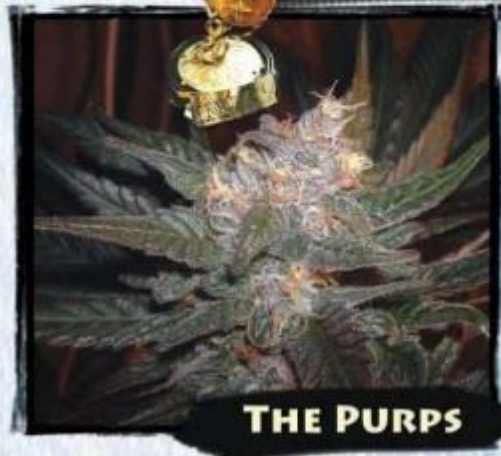
- BC GOD BUD - \$150
- THE PURPS - \$150
- ORIGINAL BLUEBERRY - \$150
- BC HASH PLANT - \$125
- JACK HERER - \$125
- SKUNK #1 X NL - \$125
- SWEET DREAMS - \$125
- CINDERELLA 99 - \$125
- STRAWBERRY COUGH - \$125

AUTO FLOWERING

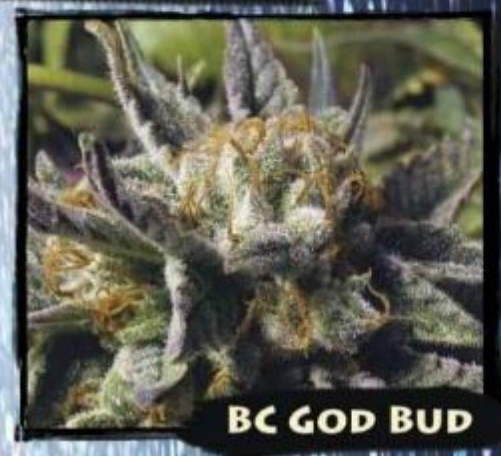
- LOWRYDER #2 - \$90
- LOWRYDER #2 - \$60

Award Winner
All Female

BC BUD DEPOT
HALL OF CHAMPIONS



THE PURPS



BC GOD BUD



BC MANGO



THE BLACK



BC BLUEBERRY



THE BIG



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*Why are we
so excited?*



SWEET GOD



TIMEWARP



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